

SE News; Domestic

HD **Militant Gender Fanatics Coming For Your Kids; Mattel Becomes A Gender Cult; AAP Doctor Glorifies Trans Teen's Suicide; Biden Admin Promotes Militant Gender Ideology; The Irreversible Damage Of Gender Treatments; UK Reports 4000 percent Increase In Gender Dysphoria Over 10 Years; Tim For Change Of Leadership At The RNC; Woke Prop Infects Military Elementary Schools; WH: Removing Vaccine Mandate Is A Mistake; Sen. Tom Cotton To Woke CEOs: Best Of Luck; Sen. Tom Cotton (R-AR) Interviewed On Biden Administration Policy For Chinese Media App TikTok; Some Parents Make Videos About Telling Their Children Not To Believe In Santa Claus; President Biden Speaks And Chip Manufacturing Plant In Arizona; House Financial Services Chair Maxine Waters May Not Subpoena Sam Bankman-Fried To Testify Regarding Failure Of His Crypto Exchange; San Francisco May Inspect Twitter Headquarters For Improper Building Usage**

BY Laura Ingraham, Marty Makary

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LP

SEAN HANNITY, FOX NEWS HOST: Every time foxnews.com, hannity.com And in the meantime, let not your heart be troubled. Laura Ingraham and THE INGRAHAM ANGLE. I watched you last night. I like it when you're pissed off, and I shared your pissed-off-ness. I was pissed off too.

Republicans need to get their act together and play the ballot game like the Democrats do. Or you know, they can't go into every election down 500,000 votes.

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LAURA INGRAHAM, FOX NEWS HOST: Yes, well, hey, at least McCarthy, he won the House, but everyone else has to make a case as to why they deserve like, you know, and I like Ronna McDaniel a lot. I've said that like her. She's a great person and great, great woman. But, I mean, you do have to make the case as to why you actually deserve to get reappointed.

I mean, a college basketball coach would have already lost his job with this record. So you know, we're going to apply at least the same standards to this as that so.

HANNITY: I'm not getting involved in that match. However, I like you and I don't know, I like it when you're pissed off.

INGRAHAM: If you - n the water, Hannity, it's OK. All right. We got to go. All right, Hannity, great to see you.

HANNITY: Good bye.

INGRAHAM: Awesome Show. All right. I'm Laura Ingraham. This is THE INGRAHAM ANGLE from Washington tonight. Now for a party that claims to hold greedy, corrupt capitalists in check, Democrats seem to be on a pathway toward letting crypto creep Sand Bankman Fried skate. Now wait until we tell you how House Financial Services Chairwoman Maxine Waters, what she just announced. But first, stolen innocence. That's the focus of tonight's angle.

I still remember when my daughter Maria, maybe she was five or six. She wanted an American Girl doll for Christmas. So I went looked at them. I fell for the brands, really wholesome kind of patriotic marketing. And

I made sure the Santa put one under the tree that year, complete with a few outfit changes and each version of the doll also had her own little story book that accompany it.

Well, moms across America before you think of shelling out over what is it over 100 bucks for a made - made in America doll, well, for Little Susie, well know a few things, first. Mattel manufactures them in China. OK?

Second, the toymaker is now using its brand to promote transgenderism to little kids. Its storybooks discuss how to delay puberty with hormone blockers and instructs on ways to keep information from parents. Now can you believe this is where we are in society where there's such a thing as doll propaganda.

Now, Mattel isn't even trying to be subtle about its agenda. Again, the dolls instruction book tells boys that they may feel like girls inside which they say is totally OK. And it introduces the concepts of being non-binary, it's again little kids and using alternative pronouns. But look, why should any of us be surprised?

The gender fluidity movement may have started on college campuses years ago, but now it's infiltrated every aspect of corporate America and our public schools. So trans employees, they check boxes and ESG land and trans applicants get the attention of college admissions officers. And of course the entertainment industry, they've been on board this for years.

And plotline after plotline you see promotes characters bravely rebelling against stuffy old norms by declaring that they just don't fit into their bodies or their biological sex.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I feel more myself in boy's clothes. Actually, I don't - I don't think I'm a girl at all.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Susie.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Even though you've always thought of me as a girl, I'm a boy.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: That acting, that plot. An entire cottage industry of trans healthcare experts also has been created to conduct workshops and get paid handsomely for it. And they do it for businesses scared of lawsuits, and then they're welcomed as speakers at prestigious medical conferences.

Enter Dr. Morissa Ladinsky, an associate professor at the University of Alabama Birmingham. She's described on the school's website as having a research interest in providing affirming care to LGBTQ youth and identified with families in the deep south, against the kind of faith based communities.

In the deep south, things are obviously really bad now at the Academy of Pediatrics conference in Anaheim, California recently, she spoke glowingly about trans ideology, and more disturbingly about the bold suicide of a trans girl.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DR. MORISSA LADINSKY: And in the final days of 2014, a local 16-year old young lady Leelah Alcorn of trans experience stepped boldly in front of a tractor trailer, ending her life. Her suicide note written to post on social media about an hour after her death went viral, literally around the world.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: This woman is a total whack job, and on the warpath against traditional Americans. Now remember, religious Americans are the problem. Trans pioneers? Well, they're the answer. Of course, the AAP doesn't make its videos public. Wonder why? Sadly, this is all in line though, with the insanity being streamlined by the administration of the practicing Catholic Joe Biden.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

RACHEL LEVINE, HHS ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR HEALTH: We have reached a tipping point for the role in (inaudible) in civic life for the health and wellbeing of LGBTQ plus youth and other Americans. I encourage all of you to think of yourselves as ambassadors to your communities. These conversations don't have to be limited or restricted to a medical setting. But for school teachers, principals, school boards,

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: Lord only knows how many pediatricians vehemently disagree with these obscene plans to steal our children's innocence. I bet the majority see the butchering of confused children as evil, pure and

simple but are afraid to speak out. But not Julie Mason, who's a fellow at the American Academy of Pediatrics,

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DR. JULIE MASON, FELLOW AT THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS: They have no idea how you identify which kids are trans and require this treatment. So they were sort of like, you know, we're just technicians. And we'll just tell you, like, if you have a trans kid, we'll tell you how to do the transition. And then the American Academy of Pediatrics, the next year just leapt into that void and said, oh, oh, we'll tell you, how you know which kids, you ask them. And if they say they're trans, then they're trans.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: There needs to be a massive class action lawsuit against the AAP. All right, the Director of Boston General's gender clinic unwittingly reveals their dirty little secret about these strong drugs downplayed as puberty blockers.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DR. JEREMI CARSWELL, DIRECTOR OF BOSTON CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL GEMS: I worry that they're being given out a lot like candy, which is great in some ways, but it's also like, OK, well, you know, you need to have the conversation.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: She says great in some ways. It's not like they're life changing ramifications involved with these drugs or anything. No. I mean, once you encourage transitioning at any age, there is no guarantee that you can ever reverse the mental or the physical damage done to yourself.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CAT CATTINSON, FORMER TRANSGENDER WHO DETRANSITIONED: It's been the most difficult thing I've ever gone through in my life. In addition to the health side effects I experience, the way it affected my career as a singer has been the hardest thing to deal with. My singing and speaking voice will never be the same after my time on testosterone.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: But these drugs are great for kids. At least that's what another AAP executive committee member says.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DR. KATHRYN LOWE, MEMBER, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF AAP SECTION ON LGBT: Puberty blockers can be such a great medicine for kids who are starting puberty. Parents may or may not be accepting. This may be a surprise to the parent. They just slow things down. They're very safe and effective. And then the next option is gender affirming hormone therapy.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: That's big money here. Children are their target market. And the poor kids are falling into the trap.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: How did you feel when I first told you I was girl.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Sixth grade is just such a hard year anyway for everyone. And especially when you're trans.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Back when I was in eighth grade, over winter break that's when I first was exposed to, I guess the word transgender and I just like as I was reading about it, I just felt like, like that was me.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: This is an aggressive marketing push coast to coast. Except in states like Florida, where courageous governors like Ron DeSantis are successfully fighting this attack of innocence. The march of

the gender radicals will continue, left in its wake though, of course, our children's innocence, grooming them for the new battles ahead.

The fact that professional organizations, such as the AMA and the American Association of Pediatrics have been subverted by the political and sexual ideology here is terrible for the already bruised and battered reputation of the public health sector.

Although the pediatrics Association claims to be working for the health benefits of all children, four out of its six members on its LGBT Health and Wellness Committee, endorse puberty blockers for patients as young as 10 and cross sex hormones to patients as young as 14.

This is absolutely appalling, and it's frankly satanic. If you want to know the true breadth of the AAPs horrors, I recommend you read Aaron Sibarium's entire piece at the Free Beacon The struggle to preserve our children's natural sense of innocence and wonderment will continue and we must never ever allow ourselves to be intimidated by all those people with titles and their advanced degrees or government positions.

After a look at what they did with COVID, the lies, the cover ups, the character assassination of brilliant doctors, and the same dynamics are at play here. But now, we're on to their game. And that's the Angle. Joining me now is Dr. Marty Makary, Professor at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and Fox News contributor. Dr. Makary, it seems to me that the American Academy of Pediatrics is perpetrating a dangerous fraud on our children. And it has ramifications that are so serious, not just for their innocence, but for their mental and physical wellbeing as well.

DR. MARTY MAKARY, JOHNS HOPKINS SCHOOL OF MEDICINE: Well, a lot of pediatricians are upset about the AAP leadership. Just to give you a little sample, 40 percent of pediatricians in rural areas don't even recommend the COVID vaccination for children. Yet the AAP makes it sound like that's misinformation.

You know, glorifying suicide and its contagious effect of glorifying it publicly, is a well-known phenomenon. And if you actually go to the AAP website, it says on there, that suicide should not be glorified. And yet, that's exactly what was done. And the one point I want to make Laura, is that there is nothing more barbaric of a society than the genital mutilation of its children for no medical indication.

And when they say that hormonal therapy, which is the manipulation of the hormonal axes that affect multiple organ systems is safe and effective, they don't know we know that vitamin therapy has long term consequences. How can altering the entire hormonal axis have no long term consequences?

INGRAHAM: Now this Dr. Julie Mason, I mentioned her in the angle Dr. Makary, she seems to be one of the few senior members of the AAP speaking out. And she spoke about the you know, the this just coincidental sharp rise in the number of people declaring themselves to be trans patients, watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MASON: Prior to 2018, I had maybe one trans patient like, this is a thing that occurred in two out of 10,000 children, one in 20 years. Yes. And then they started to come every few months. And then more often.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: Well, in the UK, Dr. Makary gender dysphoria in children, they report has increased over 4,000 percent in 10 years. I mean, they do suggestive selling at McDonald's, but this is suggestive selling of transgenderism, which is takes it up quite a few notches, don't you think?

MAKARY: Well, it's encouraged in some school systems in certain circles in the United States. How do you have a school system where 40 percent of the young children claim that they don't identify as a male or female.

Somebody has taught them that that is something that they can turn to. And let's be honest, if we had good studies, there is a hypothesis that people turn to this as children in order to rebel, there may be a pattern of a lack of love in their background. That may explain the high suicide and depression rate in people who claim to identify in this way.

We need good research and the American Academy of Pediatrics has chosen not to fund good research and instead to rule by opinion, and if you listen to some of the members like Dr. Mason, who I like they actually put forth a resolution saying if we're going to make any recommendations on trans medicine, let's have it be based on data and the AAP hostilely took that recommendation resolution down.

INGRAHAM: Well didn't Dr. Paul McHugh at Johns Hopkins, isn't he the guy who did all the ground-breaking research on gender dysphoria and transgenderism? I mean, you know, it wasn't - that that that - isn't that the biggest body of research we had? And he certainly was not on board. It didn't seem like with any of this stuff.

MAKARY: A lot of doctors are not and cancel culture has moved into medicine now. We don't have the open form of scientific opinions that are need--

INGRAHAM: Disturbing.

MAKARY: of the hour, right now. And that's very concerning.

INGRAHAM: Weaponized medicine, politically weaponized medicine. Unbelievable. Dr. Makary, thank you for speaking out. Thank you.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

RONNA MCDANIELS: Republicans had a very, very strong election with the RNC is record this cycle of turning out more than 4 million more Republicans of winning statewide and almost every battleground state proves that the turnout worked from an RNC standpoint. We flipped the House and our ground game worked.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: Now as we said last night, I said at the top of the show, the Angle likes Ronna McDaniel a lot. She's a wonderful person, but the results do speak for themselves. She's right about the House flipping, but it's time for change at the RNC. Her tenure needs to come to an end every incumbent in the Senate running for Senate stayed in the Senate.

There was no Republican flips of any of the seats held by incumbent Democrats. What is that all about? What about early voting? So as the party transitions into this new generation, I hope of elected leadership, this has to be the same at the RNC. Now, earlier today, Congressman Lee Zeldin said he would not be running, noting that McDaniel's reelection, prebaked by design.

But he also said that doesn't mean she should be running again. Now, if the RNC wants to completely ignore the grassroots of the party, well, they can forge ahead with the status quo. But I think they're going to be really unhappy when they send out all those fundraising letters, and they get, you know, a big nothing in return. It's time to look for new leadership that will revitalize the RNC and help the party move to victory after victory in 2024.

And that would mean supporting our next guest. Joining me now, Harmeet Dillon, RNC committee woman from California candidate for RNC chair and full disclosure Harmeet. I've known you for about 25 years, we both went to the same college, Dartmouth and on to UVA law school, you're few years younger than I am, lucky girl.

But I've known you and I can say with full candor to everybody as I always try to be candid, you are a consummate professional, and you don't take any crap from anyone and you do it with a smile. But you know, is it prebaked that Ronna McDaniel stays on as RNC chair?

HARMEET DHILLON, RNC CHAIR CANDIDATE: Well, thank you for having me, Laura and for your kind words. I can understand why Lee Zeldin feels that way, probably ran into a brick wall of members who have been made a lot of promises by our current chair. And you know, also members prefer another member to be the chair of the RNC. And so those two factors do make it daunting.

And you know, I'm making calls to members. I'm hearing a lot of disgruntled members who really want to see change, but they're also afraid, because there's been a culture at the RNC that if you don't play ball with the Chair and the frankly, corrupt consultant driven machine inside the beltway, you'll be punished.

You may not get plum committee assignments, your state may not get transfers to their building fund. You may not get help with your congressional races, and on and on and on. And like this culture of retribution and you know, sort of transactional relationships is not what the RNC is supposed to be about. It's supposed to be about electing Republicans all over the country. And I've actually been kind of appalled by some of the things I've heard over the last two weeks as I've begun making phone calls to members.

And so I pledge to turn that around, Laura, we cannot have a top down consultant driven 1990s - 2000 era, get fat off of media and direct mail and not do efficient changes that are necessary to compete with the Democrats. The Democrats aren't running campaigns like they were back in the day. They are absolutely

aggressively and just brutally on every innovation and law, on every innovation and starting 501(c)(3)s and nonprofits, fake nonprofits that do the work of the Democrats and we are not innovating.

We are not leading, our messaging is not clear and concise.

INGRAHAM: We are stale, it's stale.

DHILLON: We are not (inaudible) the base.

INGRAHAM: Yes. Well, by the way, Harmeemet, MSNBC, we don't have to play the soundbite. But suffice it to say, the fact that they're so worried about you, that tells me everything I need to know namely that you're the right person for the job.

They're like, well, she could be problematic. Harmeet, we're going to be covering this. I want to be fair to both Ronna and you. But again, no offense, but it's time to change it up. Harmeet, thank you very much.

Now the shocking material made available to the children of servicemembers in Defense Department's schools plus Senator Tom Cotton's message to corporate America spitting in the face of conservatives went viral. The video and the senator next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

INGRAHAM: All right, it is long past time for Republicans to start auditing how all Pentagon dollars are spent. Not just those sent without any oversight to Ukraine, 10s of billions of dollars. We just got our hands on shocking materials being offered within the different Department of Defense Education Activity schools are on the basis and so forth. It's a system educating 66,000 Kindergarteners through 12th graders and connected to the military, military families.

A book titled Beyond Magenta, transgender teen speak out details oral sex performed by an eight year old that's available to middle schoolers. And then there's Middle School's a Drag, You Better Werk, W-E-R-K is another book available to middle schoolers. It tells the story of a 12 year old boy who starts a business for the management of child drag queen shows.

And also available to high schoolers is a book titled, 'This Book is Gay' which provides instructions on how to find and participate in orgies at saunas, or bath houses.

Joining me now is the House Armed Services Committee member who obtained these materials, Decorated Combat Vet. Mark Green. Congressman you plan on sending a letter tomorrow. This is, I mean, Republicans just wanting to write a blank check to this Pentagon like it - like we're still in the greatest generation here with, you know, with World War II movies playing in the background. This is not the military of yesterday.

MARK GREEN (R-TN) HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE: No, there's been a huge increase Laura, in just two years of this pornographic material in the libraries and in the curriculum of our DOD school system, detailing how to actually commit sexual assault. These are the men and women who are trained to protect us there are, you know, and they're - they're teaching their children how to hurt other people. I mean, it's absurd, it's insane. It's tragic.

INGRAHAM: Well, what can Republicans now that you guys are going to take control of the House, we had Mitch McConnell, looks like maybe they're backing up, trying to push an omnibus which would fund the military for the next 10 months, then you have the additional appropriations for the National Authorization Defense Fund. What can you do to stop this crap, sorry, from being funded?

GREEN: Yes, my presence or my preference is CR or short CR that puts us in charge?

INGRAHAM: Continuing resolution which gives you guys leverage?

GREEN: That's exactly right. So we can start with a new budget, get that done. But we have to put in the National Defense Authorization Act that the DOD schools can't do.

INGRAHAM: DoD school, make it.

GREEN: Right, the DOD schools, and we can we can actually tell them to stop doing that, just like we're telling them now to end the VAX mandate, the vaccine mandates. So that's in this NDAA, National Defense Authorization Act. And yes, so we can just write it into the law.

INGRAHAM: Now, as Democrats on the Hill are signaling they're willing to make concessions on the VAX mandate, it seems a little like kabuki theater and in the NDAA, the White House is digging in. So watch this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KARINE JEAN-PIERRE, WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY: Republicans in Congress have decided that they rather - rather fight against the health and well- being of our troops than protecting them. And we believe that it is a mistake. Making sure our troops are prepared and ready for service is a priority for President Biden. The vaccination requirements for COVID does just that.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: She really just needs to hand out the Briefing Book to all the people in the room and just dispense with the briefings. So what about that? I mean, they're, they're holding firm or is that kind of just a negotiating ploy?

GREEN: I think it's a negotiating ploy, we were assured that the vaccine mandate is going to gone so that's the word we've gotten. And I believe Kevin has negotiated that so.

INGRAHAM: All right, Congressman, thank you. And I look forward to hearing your response, this response from them to your letter tomorrow.

GREEN: Thanks Laura.

INGRAHAM: All right. It isn't just the Pentagon, though that's getting more scrutiny from conservatives but corporate America of course as well. Now, a few years back the grocery chain, Kroger's fired two former Christian employees in Arkansas after they refuse to wear logos representing the rainbow gay pride flag.

Arkansas Senator Tom Cotton didn't forget about that when Kroger CEO came in front of the Judiciary Committee begging Republicans to just instantaneously support their latest merger.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. TOM COTTON (R-AK): They expect Republicans who are traditionally more supportive of free enterprise to come to their defense. And I've cautioned them for years that if they silence, conservatives and center right voters across the country, if they discriminate against them in their company, they probably shouldn't come and ask Republican senators to carry the water for them whenever our Democratic friends want to regulate them or block their mergers. I'm sorry, that's happening to you. Best of luck.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: Joining us now is Senator Tom Cotton. Senator, this is a lot bigger than just about one merger and one grocery chain. Is it not? I mean, this the trans agenda and the corporate you know, woke agenda is infiltrating every aspect of corporate life through ESG and other liberal initiatives

COTTON: They are very much so. A lot of these large publicly traded corporations have, in effect become an arm of the Democratic Party. In this case, you had Kroger that didn't just discriminate against two Bible believing Christians in Arkansas, firing them for refusing to wear what they perceived as a gay pride symbol and being sued by the Trump Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and settling it.

You also have them forcing their employees to go through things like critical race theory, training or gender ideology based training. You've seen this in Georgia where Brian Kemp stood up to Delta and Coca Cola for falsely defaming the law that they passed last year that made it easier to vote but harder to cheat as we just saw in the big turnout. Ron DeSantis standing up to Disney World.

Corporations for a long time have come to Republican politicians and expected us to stand up for them since we are traditionally more friendly towards the free enterprise system to say the least than Democrats. But when they do things like silence our voters the way big tech does or in this case at Kroger discriminate against our voters, they need to think twice because I certainly am not going to do and I've been warning them for years privately. And I just finally said it publicly that when you come here and you expect us to defend you after you attack our voters, my position is going to be, I'm so sorry that's happening to you. I wish you all the best.

INGRAHAM: I think it's not even an open question at all that big business is now aligned almost 100 percent with Democrats on every single social issue, almost single one, certainly on climate change.

But Senator, I also want to get into what's happening with this TikTok issue because a number of states across the country are going after TikTok on security grounds. You've got Indiana's A.G. just sued them for exposing minors to sexual content. But the White House is apparently considering some type of -- agreeing to some type of concessions, national security concessions supposedly made by the parent company. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Maryland and South Dakota became the latest two states to ban TikTok on state devices. Is the federal government, is the president considering doing something here?

KARINE JEAN-PIERRE, WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY: So I'm not going to comment on TikTok while CFIUS, the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States' review is ongoing. The Biden administration is focused on challenge of certain countries, including China.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: Yes, well, TikTok told FOX Business that they're confident that they're on a path to fully satisfy all reasonable, underline reasonable, U.S. national security concerns. Senator, why should TikTok be present in the United States at all, in any way, shape, or form, given what we know about ByteDance and the CCP?

COTTON: Shouldn't be present in the United States, Laura. There's a lot of things that you just point out there that are bad about TikTok. the way they expose minors to violent, depraved, degrading sexual material or young girls to videos about body image issues, stuff that they would never let Chinese teenagers see. Or the risk to your data security and your privacy.

But if you take a step back and look at the bigger picture, why in the world would we allow a Chinese-owned company, which has to answer to the Chinese communists, to be one of the largest media platforms in our country? Would we ever have allowed Soviet Russia to own a major newspaper or a major broadcast network during the Cold War? Of course we wouldn't have. And it's very disappointing that the Biden administration is sending signals that they might tolerate TikTok's presence here in the United States despite the grave threat it poses to all Americans.

INGRAHAM: Senator, are you confident that Mitch McConnell is going to beg off of this omnibus spending bill?

COTTON: It sounds like that's the direction we're going. He's made the point publicly that the Democrats have spent hundreds of billions of dollars on their domestic priorities over the last two years. It would be a folly for Republicans to agree to spend even more on those Democratic domestic priorities just as the ransom to get the money that our troops need. If the Democrats continue to insist on that, I see a short-term spending bill into the new year when the new House Republican majority can provide us support over in the Senate and we can get a better deal for what the American people voted for.

INGRAHAM: Senator, thank you.

Now, some grinchy young parents don't want their children believing in Santa, and Biden is all set for a 2024 run. Or is he? Raymond Arroyo has it, "Seen and Unseen" next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

INGRAHAM: It's time for our "Seen and Unseen" segment where we expose the cultural stories of the day. And for that we turn to the author of the huge bestseller "The Wise Men Who Found Christmas," FOX News contributor Raymond Arroyo. All right, Ray, there's a disturbing new trend among Gen Z parents, I don't even know who Gen Z parents are, but they refuse to believe in Santa now? What?

RAYMOND ARROYO, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: They refuse -- worse. They want their children to not believe. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

(MUSIC)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: See. Throw it back.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Start a riot.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: See. Throw it back.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Start a riot.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: See. Throw it back.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Start a riot.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Before our daughter was born, we decided that we weren't going to lie to her because of the psychological trauma that occurs with children when they find out that their parents have been lying to them for years and years and years. There's a lot of research on it.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: What about the trauma of the way he talks, of his voice.

ARROYO: If they can endure the psychological trauma of dad wearing that unicorn hat, I think they'll survive Santa. Laura, this breaks my heart, because you and I believe in Santa. In fact, I think I believe in Santa now more than I did when I was younger.

INGRAHAM: I think you do, too.

ARROYO: Santa is a spirit. I told my own children this. Every year he takes human form. He brings. He brings love, graciousness, generosity to us. And Chesterton captured it best. He said, "Cannot the child pass from a child's natural fancy to a man's normal faith in holy Nicholas of the children, or must they break from the land of make believe to a world of no belief?"

INGRAHAM: No belief.

ARROYO: And that's at the heart of all of this. It's people who simply want to believe nothing. We need awe, we need wonder, particularly at Christmas. Don't take that away from children. Leave them alone.

INGRAHAM: No, but again, the wonderment. You and I have talked about that a lot, where everything is so instantly accessible. People waiting every year to watch "The Wizard of Oz" or "The Sound of Music," it was so exciting.

ARROYO: Yes. And now they can call it up at any moment.

INGRAHAM: We've seen it.

ARROYO: I think they also don't like the nature of good and evil, naughty and nice. I think some people don't like that --

INGRAHAM: Oh, coal in your stocking.

ARROYO: And as you revealed in the Angle, we are imposing adult concerns and fixations on children while depriving them of the fun of childhood. Case in point, incoming House Democratic Whip Katherine Clark.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. KATHERINE CLARK, (D-MA): Let me tell you what it means to me coming in as a different generation. I remember my middle child waking up with nightmares over concern around climate change.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(LAUGHTER)

INGRAHAM: You've got to be kidding.

ARROYO: Laura, if the kid's waking up worried about climate change, inflation, or the national debt, you put that on that child. You are imposing adult concerns on a child. Let them have a moment of joy.

INGRAHAM: They did the same thing with COVID. The kids are terrified. They have a 0.000, what, 03 percent chance of dying from COVID.

ARROYO: It's a heartbreaker. Let them put their cookies out and leave them alone.

INGRAHAM: Enjoy.

ARROYO: And Laura, as you reported and as we heard earlier this week, at that state dinner the French president toasted Joe Biden on the news that he's running for president in 2024. I'm only glad when Macron said "let's toast," Biden didn't reach for the wonder bread. But listening to him at this Arizona factory built by a Taiwanese superconductor manufacturing company yesterday, it's hard to see how he runs again or runs at all.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOE BIDEN, (D) PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: Arizona is a hub, literally a hub, for technical changes that's going to take place.

We can do -- what we can do together is just anything, virtually anything.

We'll construct a second fab here in Phoenix to build chips, three nanochips, the three nanochip. Chips that are three nano. You know what I'm saying.

(LAUGHTER)

BIDEN: Nano, no-no. I don't know.

(MUSIC)

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(LAUGHTER)

INGRAHAM: I like when he does the run, he points. Is it this way?

ARROYO: And then doesn't go the right way and then he runs off in the other direction.

INGRAHAM: Is it just me, or was he speaking most of time with one eye closed?

ARROYO: I think, Laura, many times I think the thought pattern, his train of thought is on strike.

INGRAHAM: Caboose of thought is on strike.

ARROYO: Yes, it's not good. This is not working at all.

INGRAHAM: So is the superconductor factory and the semiconductor factory coming together?

ARROYO: I think they're all coming together, and the nano, nu-nu, na-nu na-nu.

INGRAHAM: The Biden-isms are totally wearing --

ARROYO: It's a mess, and now all the journalists are complaining they're not going to the White House Christmas party. Go to Madame Tussauds. That character will be far more responsive than the Joe Biden we've been seeing.

INGRAHAM: Just bring in, sneak in a little glass of sparkling wine.

(LAUGHTER)

INGRAHAM: Don't you miss going to the White House Christmas party?

ARROYO: I do. I do.

And I'm going to the Museum of the Bible Saturday, 1:00, big book signing here in D.C.

INGRAHAM: Fun, Raymondo. Raymond, thank you.

ARROYO: Thank you.

INGRAHAM: San Francisco isn't worried about public defecation or open drug dens, but rather what Elon Musk is putting inside Twitter's headquarters. Plus, Dems are coming to the rescue of the crypto creep who filled their campaign coffers. That's a shock. Amala Ekpunobi and Steve Miller are here next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

INGRAHAM: Crypto swindler Sam Bankman-Fried has been on a whirlwind media tour proclaiming his innocence. His latest sit down was with "Puck." He was asked, "Can you confidently say there was no financial impropriety on the political and philanthropic side of your work? His response, "I don't believe there was any. I don't think there's any. I'm not omniscient, but I don't think there was any." That was apparently good enough for Financial Services Chair Maxine Waters. She reportedly told fellow Dems last night she was no longer interested in subpoenaing him.

Joining me now is Amala Ekpunobi, PragerU personality, and Stephen Miller, founder of America First Legal and former senior advisor to President Trump. Stephen, you can't make this up. They were the warriors against corrupt capitalism. And now, the Democrats?

STEPHEN MILLER, FORMER SENIOR ADVISER TO PRESIDENT TRUMP: Now Democrats are the party of corrupt capitalism. And the sooner that Republicans figure this out, the sooner there's a path to building a durable Republican majority. This whole scandal with Sam Bankman-Fried, the massive Democrat spending, the kid glove treatment from Democrats is a massive, giant opening that Republicans need to take advantage of, be the anticorruption, anti-crony capitalist party, the American worker party.

INGRAHAM: Amala, apparently tonight Maxine Waters called a lot of this about Sam Bankman-Fried, referenced it apparently as lies. Where did the money go?

AMALA EKPUNOBI, PRAGERU PERSONALITY: Right, that's a brilliant question that I think a lot of people should be asking. There's a wonderful video that's circulating on the Internet right now of Maxine Waters a year ago blowing a kiss at Sam Bankman-Fried, and I wonder what that kiss was exactly for, where the money has gone, and how much money he's been moving around. But I have a feeling Maxine Waters and Sam have a similar interest in moving money around and misusing it.

INGRAHAM: Stephen, imagine if this were a Donald Trump supporting corporate CEO who was accused of this -- or thought to be guilty of this level of impropriety at the very least with billions upon billions of dollars. Can you imagine? Maxine, she would be doing one of those rants, you know, from some makeshift box outside.

MILLER: You wouldn't be able to keep Maxine Waters away from the microphone or Chuck Schumer or Nancy Pelosi, or the rest of them every single day, hour after hour, plus "The Washington Post," "The New York Times," CNN, MSNBC, not to mention a massive federal strike force composed of DOJ, SEC, and everybody else, every alphabet in the entire Washington dictionary.

INGRAHAM: Now, Amala I know you've been following this story out in California, but Elon Musk has converted some office space at Twitter's headquarters into little sleeping areas, and this drove the San Francisco Mayor London Breed, who has nothing else on her plate over there, just drove her over the edge. Now the Department of Building Inspectors there is reportedly launching an investigation into whether the building is being used as intended.

Amala, there's no politics involved here, is there? You've got an injection site or a tent city in front of the building, that would be fine, but the city would give them a tax break then.

EKPUNOBI: Right, you're absolutely right. It's clearly a witch hunt here. They're going after Elon Musk because of the ideology and the ideas that he represents, and they're scared of what he's going to do. The Twitter files that are coming out have some very big implications as far as corruption happening at that company.

The last thing that the city of San Francisco, with the homelessness problem that they are experiencing, should be worried about is extra beds being in the city. Instead of worrying about Elon Musk, they should be focusing on homelessness, on crime, on drug abuse, and the other big businesses that are choosing to leave their city. We're talking about Walgreens, Starbucks, Uber, all of these major corporations are choosing to take up space in other cities because San Francisco cannot support them with the way their city is being run. That's what they should be worried about.

INGRAHAM: Stephen, here we have Wal-Mart closing in certain parts of the country because of all the shoplifting. So these permissive policies of criminal justice reformers and so forth, D.A.s, liberal D.A.s, actually end up hurting people who need these retailers in their areas, in their neighborhoods, the most to get decent deals on various things. So those are going to eventually, one by one, leave.

MILLER: When you see these videos online, we've all seen them, dozens of them where you have these gangs come into these stores, arms full, bundled with clothing or purses or shoes, walking out. That's higher prices for every consumer, not to mention the social degradation of living in a place where you see crime happening in plain sight and nobody's doing anything about it. It's an attack on the working and middle class of the country.

INGRAHAM: Amala and Stephen, both of you, it's great to see you tonight, as always.

MILLER: Thank you.

INGRAHAM: And big weed comes for grandma and grandpa? OK. I found this this afternoon, and I was both laughing and crying as I read it and watched it. The Last Bite will explain it. I'm not sure you're going to believe it. Coming up.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

INGRAHAM: As big weed is pushing the passage of the unsafe banking act, the pot hounds at "The L.A. Times" are busy paying homage to one of the city's new commercial pot cafes, and boy is it gnarly man. The cannabis consumption lounge that recently opened in a lush tropical courtyard in West Hollywood is one of the most joyfully unique, absurdly captivating, and mind-blowing paces most of us mere mortals could hope to find ourselves getting legally lit. Oh, my goodness.

Well, meanwhile, "The L.A. Times" is always thrilled about scamming seniors, giving them free shuttle rides to waste their money on cannabis.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I'm at a bus stop at Laguna Woods Village Retirement Community where a bunch of seniors are about ready to get on a bus, take a trip to a local dispensary to find out what cannabis can do for them.

(MUSIC)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: This year we're actually inviting seniors from all over Orange County and even L.A. to come with us, and then we're also bussing seniors over from Laguna Wood.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: You have children and grandchildren.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I do. They know now. They were a little surprised. They were like, grandma!

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: Now, between gender affirming care lie, and the weed lies, the COVID lies, we have a lot of work to do here on THE ANGLE, and we will not stop bringing you the truth.

Up next, "GUTFELD!"

END

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HD Musk Fires Twitter Attorney For "Suppression" Of Info; House GOP Eye Investigation Of Twitter Files; Musk Fires Twitter Lawyer Linked To Russia Probe; Border Agent Dies In Crash Chasing Migrants; Interview with Rep. Dan Crenshaw (R-TX); Former Border Patrol Chief: Border Going to Get Worse; FTX Founder And His Ex Hire Attorneys As Probes Ramp Up; Lawmakers Demanding Answers About FTX Crypto Crash; TikTok Scrutinized Over National Security Concerns; Ukraine's Zelenskyy Named Time Person of the Year; Police Removing Personal Items From Idaho Crime Scene; Holidays Face "Perfect Storm" Of Flu, COVID, RSV; Survivors Mark 81 Years Since Pearl Harbor Attack

BY Mike Emanuel, John Roberts, Sandra Smith, Trace Gallagher, Kelly O'Grady, Bill Melugin, William La Jeunesse, Charlie Gasparino, Edward Lawrence, Joe Concha, Alexis McAdams, Marty Makary

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SN Fox News Channel: The Story with Martha MacCallum

SC HUNDD

LA English

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LP

MIKE EMANUEL, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT: I've got a high school junior who's studying hard. So, let's keep going.

JOHN ROBERTS, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Thanks, Mike. Good to see you. I assume that you did an SAT when you were young?

TD

SANDRA SMITH, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Absolutely. I did the SAT and the ACT.

ROBERTS: Or younger, I should say.

SMITH: Thanks, John. Great to be with you. Jam-packed two hours. Thanks for joining us, everybody. I'm Sandra Smith.

ROBERTS: And I'm John Roberts. We'll see you again tomorrow. THE STORY with Trace Gallagher in from Martha's starts right now.

TRACE GALLAGHER, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST (on camera): I can't believe your twins are 11. Thank you, John and Sandra. Good afternoon, everybody. I'm Trace Gallagher in for Martha MacCallum. Ahead on THE STORY, Texas Congressman Dan Crenshaw on tragic news that a border patrol agent died this morning during a high-speed pursuit of suspected illegal immigrants, one day after the President said there are more important things than visiting the border.

But first to Elon Musk firing Twitter's Deputy General Counsel, James Baker, for possible "suppression of information." Baker's name has come up in the apparent scramble at Twitter around censoring the Hunter Biden story ahead of the 2020 election, Congressman Byron Donalds sits on the House Oversight Committee. Its top Republican is now calling for hearings around all of this and he is standing by live for us. But first to Fox Business Correspondent Kelly O'Grady with more on this story. Kelly.

KELLY O'GRADY, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Good to be with you, Trace. I mean, the Twitter saga just never disappoints, does it? And the latest is filled with irony. I think this is amazing, because Musk's push towards transparency turns out to be tainted by an employee at Twitter suppressing information. We were expecting another dump regarding the Hunter Biden laptop saga over the weekend, but that was delayed following the bombshell that Twitter's Deputy General Counsel has been vetting the first batch of files without knowledge of new management.

So, Musk addressed the controversy yesterday evening, he tweeted this saying, "In light of concerns about Baker's possible role in suppression of information important to the public dialogue, he was exited from

Twitter today." When Musk was asked if Baker explained himself the billionaire responded, "Yes, his explanation was unconvincing." So, just some context on who Jim Baker is and why this is raising eyebrows. So, before Twitter hired him, Baker was the General Counsel for the FBI, where he was a key figure in the Bureau's investigation into alleged Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election. So, the journalists that must tap to release the files are sharing they were shocked at his involvement, and now Republican lawmakers are calling for answers on just how closely the FBI and big tech are linked.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. GREG STEUBE (R-FL): The great thing is, is now we can bring people like James Baker in and put him under oath and depose him. Thankfully, Elon Musk identified this issue with him and terminated him and escorted him out of the building. And now, we're going to get these unredacted documents, we're going to obviously subpoena some of these documents.

O'GRADY: So, with Republicans taking majority of the House in January, they will now have the power to do that. And we can expect more info to come out soon on the role Twitter played in suppressing the story. Trace, journalists have resumed combing through the files and encourage everyone to stay tuned.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

O'GRADY: They certainly will. I marvel at how Elon Musk has kept us just on the edge of our seat with this.

GALLAGHER: And maybe that was the whole goal, right?

O'GRADY: Right.

GALLAGHER: But I'm going to, I'm going to read this entire quote from James Baker to Byron Donalds coming up because I think it's fascinating to hear exactly what he said. There's a lot more coming on THE STORY.

O'GRADY: There is certainly.

GALLAGHER: Kelly O'Grady, back to you as the news breaks. Meantime, Florida Congressman Byron Donalds is a member of the House Oversight Committee, which plans to investigate the Biden family. Congressman, thank you for coming on. As I was telling Kelly, I want to read this. This is what James Baker, the message right?

He said quoting here to Twitter employees advising them on using caution: "I support the conclusion that we need more facts to assess whether the materials were hacked. At this stage, however, it is reasonable for us to assume that they may have been and the caution is warranted. There are some facts that indicate the materials may have been hacked, while there are others indicating that the computer was either abandoned and or the owner consent it to allow the repair shop to access it for at least some purposes. We simply need more information."

So, he's covering all his bases, right? He's saying, well, maybe it was hacked, maybe it wasn't. But the bottom line is we need more information. He knows full-well the FBI had this computer for a year, and that this was not hacked. Your thoughts?

REP. BYRON DONALDS (R-FL): My thought is, this thanks to high heaven. My eyebrows are more than raised. The questions I had before have only multiplied. He needs to come and answer a lot of questions from the Oversight Committee. Listen, Jim Baker, we're going to go way, way back like it was said before, this guy was the council at FBI when they were doing the FISA warrants back with Carter Page. This is all based on the phony dossier against Donald Trump.

So, this guy has been in the room and a part of what has gone on with investigations of the former president from before he was even sat as the former, as the as the 45th President of the United States. Now, we come full circle, he's, he's a, he's a general counsel at Twitter. So, you know he was seeing stuff, traffic come in, during the 2020 elections, and now he's trying to clean up the files that are released to the public that the current owner, Elon Musk, wants out for transparency purposes. This is a cover up of the highest order. Major questions have to be answered. He needs to come in and answer to Congress.

GALLAGHER: And I think Byron York really nailed it in the Washington Examiner. He said, following here, quoting: "Indeed, it would have caused an uproar and would have been a gross violation of the First Amendment had the FBI shut down the dissemination of a press story. So, the FBI persuaded Twitter to do it. And since Twitter is a private company -- voila! -- there's no violation of the First Amendment." Congressman, viola, it's a great word because you work around the back door, and you can get a lot of things accomplished.

DONALDS: Well, let me say this, there is no viola here, because if you have agents of our government, putting pressure on companies to suppress information, that's the same effect is the government doing it, because you basically are using the weight of the office to get companies to bend their knee. It's outrageous. And I got a message for everybody in America.

I know the midterm elections are over, but one of the big things that Democrats spent the last year talking about was defending the democracy and saving democracy. Well, you cannot save democracy, if you have potentially agents of the government and media companies suppressing information. That is far worse than Russia collusion. And so, we have to get down to the bottom of this for the sake of the entire Republic, because you cannot have people going in the backdoor, suppressing information and suppressing free speech.

GALLAGHER: Here's what I go back to as those 50 former Intel agents who signed that letter saying this has all the hallmarks of Russian disinformation, somebody, somewhere generated that letter, somebody got the ball rolling for that letter to be written in for all those people to sign it. And you wonder, what's the genesis of that letter? Who's the one that wrote it up and said, hey, how about y'all sign this?

DONALDS: Well, look, I'm just, the way the facts are starting to come together, it only points in one direction. We have to find out the actual who -- that's going to be critical. But this apparently is very clear that the DNC, in some respects, maybe the Hillary campaign, definitely the Biden campaign, there were people involved in the highest levels of our politics, which does impact the business here on Capitol Hill. So, I heard some of what the Press Secretary was saying in her briefing, she doesn't -- it's not, it's not good enough just to say, oh, I can't talk about it and hide behind the Hatch Act. You have serious issues of collusion and worse suppression going on. And House Republicans are going to get to the bottom of that.

GALLAGHER: We keep saying that, you know, House Republicans and, and Congress for years have been saying we're going to get to the bottom of it. And sometimes they don't, sometimes they're hindered, sometimes people just don't cooperate, and there don't seem to be consequences. Lastly, Congressman, how do you implement consequences to actually get to the bottom of something?

DONALDS: First things first, we have to go to the investigative, the investigative process, we're going to do that. Unlike the Democrats, we're not going to pick a target and then do everything we can to string all of it together any way shape or form to get the conclusion that we want. We still are a nation of laws and we are going to follow the law. But the law takes us to that conclusion, I believe we're going to make the necessary referrals to get down that line.

GALLAGHER: Congressman Byron Donalds, great to have you on, Sir, thank you.

DONALDS: Anytime.

GALLAGHER: And breaking overnight, a border patrol agent dies in the line of duty while chasing a group of suspected illegal immigrants, as President Biden insist more important things are going on. Texas Republican Congressman Dan Crenshaw wants to know why thousands of illegal crossings every day, drug cartels in full operational control of our border and fentanyl killing almost 80,000 Americans isn't high on the President's priority list. He's next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

GALLAGHER: While President Biden told our White House Correspondent Peter Doocy, there were more important things to do during a trip to Arizona than go to the border. The President visited a manufacturing facility in Phoenix instead. Hours later, a border patrol agent died in the line of duty. Federal sources tell Fox News the agent was chasing a group of migrants near Mission, Texas when he crashed his ATV into a gate. He leaves behind two children. Texas Republican Congressman Dan Crenshaw is standing by, he has a plan to give Border Patrol agents bonuses for putting their lives on the line. But first, to the National Correspondent, Bill Melugin, he's live at the border in Hidalgo, Texas. Bill.

BILL MELUGIN, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT: Hey, Trace, good afternoon to you. Just a short time ago, the sector chief for the Rio Grande Valley Border Patrol, the sector where this agent died this morning, put out a statement where she said this fallen agent was a brother of theirs who died in the line of duty working the midnight shift, who was working to protect this great country -- a statement directly from her a lot of sad agents out here in the RGV this morning as a lot of them knew this guy and I'm told he was a fantastic agent, a father of two and just 38 years old.

In the meantime, this border crisis rages on. Take a look at this video we shot early this morning in Eagle Pass with our fantastic drone scene. This is part of what was left over of a group of 400 migrants that crossed over all at once. The video here showing about 200 of them.

The chief of U.S. Border Patrol reporting earlier this week, in a two-day span, there were more than 14,000 migrant encounters. That's an average of 7,000 per day. And human smuggling is still off the charts right now.

Take a look at this video from Maverick County, courtesy of Texas DPS, showing one of their troopers working alone, trying to pull over a human smuggler. Everybody goes bailing out of the vehicle illegal immigrants go running all over the place.

The troopers decides to stay with the human smuggler, arrest her at gunpoint. She ended up being a U.S. citizen, a female from the San Antonio area.

Then, more human smuggling out of Arizona. Take a look at these photos. Border Patrol stopping a pickup truck. 13 illegal immigrants inside, including two unrestrained little children and six illegal immigrants all dressed in camouflage, hidden in the bed of the truck.

And then, lastly, we'll take you to Nogales, Arizona, another significant fentanyl bust down there. 440,000 fentanyl pills seized at the port of entry in Nogales.

That port of entry continuing to see massive fentanyl busts, multiple times a week.

We'll send it back to you, Trace.

GALLAGHER: 440,000 pills, you wonder how many fatal doses that is.

Bill Melugin down to the border. Bill, thank you.

MELUGIN: Yes.

GALLAGHER: Let's bring in Texas Republican Congressman Dan Crenshaw, retired Navy SEAL who's pushing to reward Border Patrol agents who risked their lives for all of us.

I mean, I just listened to Bill's report there, and you talk about 440,000 fentanyl pills. God knows how many lethal doses are in those pills.

But I think that, that retired Border Patrol Chief Rodney Scott, made a valuable point today on Fox News. And I'll get your response on the other side. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

RODNEY SCOTT, FORMER CHIEF, UNITED STATES BORDER PATROL: It's going to get even worse. Anytime that people know that they can commit a crime with no consequences, they can come to this country with no consequences, the flow is just going to continue.

It's hard to say it's going to get worse because it's totally overwhelmed in agents today. And we don't talk about the criminals, the terrorists, and all the narcotics that are pouring across with that.

And the 100s of miles of border that are already open, there is not going to be anybody left on the border to actually arrest anyone.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GALLAGHER: We keep saying Congressman, that it's hard to say it's going to get worse. And we see every day that it's getting worse. Your thoughts.

REP. DAN CRENSHAW (R-TX): Look, he's right, that it's about incentives. And like there's two types of incentives. I'll flush out what he said. There's the immigration incentive, and then, there is the violation of law incentive, which applies to the -- in the narco-terrorists across our border.

And so, they're not held accountable for this. This is why I introduced a couple of weeks ago, the Declaring War on the Cartels Act, which would allow us more tools to go after them, to go after their finances, to go after everything about them.

To go after Mexican government officials that are aiding and abetting them, there needs to be consequences. We have to accept the fact that they're at war with us by killing nearly 80,000 Americans a year by poisoning them with fentanyl.

Now, then, there is the immigration incentive. So, unless we actually deport people right back to their country, unless we reinstate the Remain in Mexico Program, unless we actually change some policy, we are continuing to incentivize people to just walk across, and there's nothing we can do about it.

And what's heartbreaking about this, and the reason I keep putting forth legislation to help Border Patrol agents, say like this bonus you mentioned for \$6,500 a year.

(CROSSTALK)

GALLAGHER: Yes.

CRENSHAW: We're also working on legislation for a retention bonus. The reason I keep doing that is because look at their morale. How can they feel like they're fighting the good fight when their president doesn't have their back?

He's gone for ice cream eight times publicly. That's just the times we know about. And he refuses to visit the border once. He doesn't care about them, he doesn't care about the problem down there, he doesn't care about nearly 80,000 Americans dying per year from the fentanyl, and this guy died on an ATV, trying to defend the border.

And you wonder why morale is low, because they don't know what they're fighting for anymore because the president doesn't have their back.

GALLAGHER: Because, you know, border patrol agents down there, all they are doing is processing migrants and not enforcing the border anymore.

All they do is they come in, they process migrants, and they let them go. They get them a court date, and that's it, they move on.

When Republicans continue to kind of put these programs forward, and Democrats continue to say the Republicans should stop pointing fingers and come up with ideas, what do you think?

CRENSHAW: I think we have lots of legislation. We have the exact ideas. I can tell you in detail the legislation that I just, just by myself that I've introduced. Say, closing asylum loopholes.

Look, a big -- like a big one -- big problem here, is that people have this credible fear, claim, the cartels give them advice on exactly what to say.

And then, they set up a court date, or maybe even just a notice to appear months or even years down the road. So, they just get let loose into the interior.

GALLAGHER: Right.

CRENSHAW: You have to stop that.

You also have to make the state department actually do its job and engage with deals with other countries so that ICE can put people on planes and deport them right back to those countries.

If you just put them back on the other side of the border, well, they just walk right back.

GALLAGHER: Sure.

CRENSHAW: OK, you have to deport them far away. This is actually a very simple problem to fix, and we have the plans to fix it. So, Democrats are lying when they say, oh, it's just a publicity stunt. You're just going down there for publicity stunts.

GALLAGHER: Yes.

CRENSHAW: No. We have the legislation.

GALLAGHER: You say you can fix it, Congressman. But look at the problem getting worse. I want to put these numbers up on the screen.

This is from 2020 to 2022. Look at the number of encounters. 458,000, now, we're at 2.378 million encounters, which is why Democratic Congresswoman Elissa Slotkin said this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HILLARY VAUGHN, FOX BUSINESS NETWORK CORRESPONDENT: I think it's important for the administration to recognize it's a crisis.

REP. ELISSA SLOTKIN (D-MI): We all know it's a crisis. I've been clear about that. And so, when you have a crisis in your country, you should deal with it.

VAUGHN: But do you think he should go to the border? He only did a drive by. He's never physically been to the border, especially in past two years.

SLOTKIN: He, the vice presidents, senior leaders, absolutely. Senior leaders should deal with a crisis in their country.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GALLAGHER: And she is not a Democrat. I mean, she is not a border Democrat. The board Democrats are going crazy down there.

CRENSHAW: Yes, that's absolutely true. However, there is still no one signed on to my legislation that would fix the problem.

So, I like that she's saying that publicly. I will call on her publicly to work with me. I've got good legislation. It is not partisan. It is not attacking Democrats. It is simply a solution to these problems. Like, we really need Democrats to sign on to this stuff.

Because look, we won the House, but we're not the Senate, and we still now, the presidency. We need them to recognize the crisis and work with us. We have the solutions.

GALLAGHER: Congressman Dan Crenshaw, great to see you. Thank you, sir.

CRENSHAW: Thanks.

GALLAGHER: Well, immigrants accused of crimes here in Los Angeles can now ask prosecutors to go easy on them to keep them from getting deported.

That, according to sources in the L.A. District Attorney George Gascon's office. And some of his own prosecutors are very unhappy about this.

The senior national correspondent William La Jeunesse is here with more on this. William.

WILLIAM LA JEUNESSE, FOX NEWS CHANNEL NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Well, Trace, number one, these deputy D.A. say this is discriminatory right that U.S. citizens will get treated more harshly than illegal immigrants for the same crime.

Two, it means that these D.A.s will plead down cases or dismiss charges because of the defendant's legal status.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ERIC SIDDDALL, VICE PRESIDENT, ASSOCIATION OF DEPUTY DISTRICT ATTORNEYS, LOS ANGELES COUNTY: Prior convictions, current convictions, current cases, probation violations, all these defense lawyers and these defendants will be able to ask for a reduction in their charges, and elimination of enhancements, basically preferential treatment on violent crimes, so that they can avoid immigration consequences.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

LA JEUNESSE: Now, sources within Gascon's office, say the new policy tell suspects to talk to his office, and let it be known if criminal charges could have "adverse immigration consequences" on them. And if so, D.A.s are expected to pursue a lesser alternative.

So, these changes mean a lot. Right now, when you're booked into jail, your name is run against immigration database, and in most states, a felony arrest conviction will trigger a deportation.

But not in sanctuary states where police and prosecutors cannot cooperate with immigration, unless it's a violent crime.

This policy nullifies that. Telling prosecutors to avoid charges of assault, attempted murder, domestic violence that could trigger that immigration hold.

"All charging determinations shall be undertaken with the goal of avoiding or mitigating adverse immigration consequences."

Gascon's office says it consulted with staff, key stakeholders, and immigration experts to craft a comprehensive policy that protects vulnerable victims and prioritizes safety while attempting to avoid overly punitive consequences for the accused.

But deputies say the policy creates a double standard.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SIDDALL: In essence, what it means is if you are committing a violent offence, and you're here illegally, you will get a better deal or better charges than someone who is here legally.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

LA JEUNESSE (on camera): So, the bottom line is the D.A. is survived two recall attempts.

We have a new mayor in town. New sheriff, will it make them any less progressive? It doesn't appear so.

GALLAGHER: No, and he's going nowhere. William, great to see you. Thank you.

Well, Fox has just gotten to pull aside with Moscow Police Chief James Fry, at the crime scene of that vicious quadruple murder. You will hear that here first.

And Charlie Gasparino, Joe Concha, and Dr. Marty Makary, when THE STORY continues.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

GALLAGHER: Well, the former crypto power couple in the middle of a collapse that apparently wiped out billions of dollars have now hired up lawyers. Different lawyers, mind you, from different firms. That's according to Reuters.

Former FTX CEO Sam Bankman-Fried is still holed up in his luxury penthouse in the Bahamas. Caroline Ellison was reportedly spotted in New York this weekend, not far from the FBI and U.S. attorney's offices, prompting speculation she might be trying to cut a deal with the feds.

Let's bring in Fox Business senior correspondent Charlie Gasparino. Charlie, here come the lawyers in the plea deals right on schedule.

CHARLIE GASPARINO, FOX BUSINESS NETWORK SENIOR CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Yes, I mean, listen, we're not there yet. We're -- but here is what I do know, because I've been speaking to people that have been speaking to the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District, and they are ramping up their probe.

There's no doubt that they -- in the last couple of days, as Sam Bankman-Fried has, you know, gone on some sort of a weird media blitz, you know, trying to explain his side of the story that things are really bad, but he had no idea he was committing fraud, essentially, what he said.

They've been -- the U.S. Attorney's Office has been calling people as they are trying to make their case.

I mean, it -- they're giving the impression that they are looking to make a case against him. And maybe Ellison before the end of the year.

Obviously, unless there is a case, there is no case.

You know, it's hard to say that he's guilty of fraud until he's even convicted, and he's -- and he hasn't even been charged yet.

But that's kind of where we are right now. They seem very determined to make a case. And why is that? Because even if you take him at his word, Trace that made a huge mistake here, you know, didn't know where misplaced 8 billion here 6 billion there, the company was so riddled with bad plumbing in terms of compliance that it was almost set up to fail.

And then on top of it all, you have this side thing with a bank called Silvergate that -- you know, had some relationship with them.

GALLAGHER: Right.

GASPARINO: This is a federally regulated -- FDIC regulated institution. The CEO of Silvergate is out there, saying he did nothing wrong. And obviously, getting not -- he didn't -- he's not been charged.

But, you know, there is -- the investigations are starting to swirl about the connections between this bank, FTX, which was the trading exchange. And Alameda Research, which was the vehicle that they traded with that they lost all the money on. It was essentially a hedge fund that took money from FTX out of customer wallets and gambled it in crypto. And who knows what else is out there, you know, this is -- there's still have to untangle on this.

GALLAGHER: We should know that Silvergate is a California bank, Charlie, and we're billions of dollars in wire transfers. The bank is like, no, we thoroughly checked all this stuff out and you want to ask, if you were really thorough about this, how in the world could this have happened?

GASPARINO: Yes. And, you know, I read the letter that Elizabeth Warren and John Kennedy, it's a bipartisan investigation in the Senate right now in this whole affair have sent to Silvergate. And one of the interesting things they make is, you know, every federally regulated bank, like real banks, have to -- when they see suspicious money flying back and forth, they have to issue reports to called SARS reports, suspicious activity reports. Obviously, you know, it's for money laundering to make sure people are using the federally insured bank to launder money.

And, you know, they want to know where were those reports, where were those red flags, how come none of this money swishing around through Silvergate was brought to the attention of the Fed and regulators, and the FDIC.

So this thing is getting very interesting. You know, bank fraud is put you in jail for a long time if that's what it comes down -- that's what goes down here. Money laundering is not a slap on the wrist either, by the way.

GALLAGHER: Yes. I'm wondering, hey, come on all that money going somewhere, somebody's got -- we got about 15 seconds left, Charlie, I just want to know I think we've heard the last from SBF, and his lawyers like no more explaining what you did wrong, right now there's no more talking.

GASPARINO: Yes. I mean, listen, he never wanted to talk to me. Listen, I like Andrew Ross Sorkin, really good journalist. I watched the New York Times in his interview with SBF. I think one of the problems with these interviews is people treated him way too nicely.

GALLAGHER: Like he was a guest.

GASPARINO: He was like -- yes. Like, hey, we're he's -- oh, come on, ain't it great deal he's coming on? I mean, I think he needed to be tougher in these interviews really much more direct with him. I mean, Mr. Bankman- Fried, you took money that doesn't belong to you and traded it, meaning you're -- the fund that you are 90% owner of, isn't that accurate and isn't that theft? By the way, you could talk about regulations all you want, theft has been illegal since the beginning of time.

GALLAGHER: It's exactly right. And that's my whole thing is why didn't Charlie Gasparino get a chance to (inaudible) that interview.

GASPARINO: You know why.

GALLAGHER: You know why. You know he's like, I'm going in there. Yes. Charlie, great to see you. Thank you as always.

GASPARINO: You got it.

FRANCOIS: Florida Governor Ron DeSantis is not Time's pick for the Person of the Year but we are now learning that he will reportedly huddle with donors for an intimate gathering this weekend kind of further fueling the 2024 hype. Joe Concha after this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Ron DeSantis makes no sense to me.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Explain Ron DeSantis.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: There's lot of constituent service going on there. Ron DeSantis, he's like -- make him explain why Ron DeSantis?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I can't.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I don't -- -- just mean -- I don't mean existentially. I mean, explain this.

(CROSSTALK)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I can't do the delve with DeSantis.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOE BIDEN, PRESIDENT OF UNITED STATES: Congratulations, buddy. Go get them.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Thank you. This will make it easier for us to get some things done.

BIDEN: Sure it will. I guarantee you it will.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GALLAGHER: A short time ago, President Biden tweeting a clip of his congratulatory phone call to Senator Raphael Warnock who's win over Herschel Walker in Georgia solidifies a true Democratic majority in the Senate. The President also tweeting that Georgia voters stood up for our democracy and rejected Ultra MAGAism.

Moments ago new reaction from the White House says talks with TikTok about protecting Americans' privacy and our national security apparently ran into delays. The administration was trying to cut a deal by the end of the year but some Republicans say we should just ban Tiktok in the US. Fox Business correspondent Edward Lawrence is fresh out of the briefing room at the White House. He joins us now. Edward, good afternoon.

EDWARD LAWRENCE, FOX BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT: Good afternoon, Trace. Yes. These talks are dragging on with TikTok and the concern here is over privacy and how much information the Chinese government actually seized. Now the Biden administration, as you said, had hoped to have a deal by now.

Now in a statement, the company TikTok tells us this, "We are confident that we are on a path to fully satisfy all reasonable US national security concerns, and have already made significant strides towards implementing those solutions. But concerns still linger."

A former cybersecurity leader for the Pentagon and current CEO of SideChannel tells us that the app can access your phone information and sway opinions with the algorithm. Listen.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BRIAN HAUGLI, CEO, SIDECHANNEL: But think of that at a national or economic or military scale from China to the US, not from, you know, Home Depot to you as a shopper who kind of likes Lowe's instead. It's, you know, we're not trying to convert shoppers, right? This is converting people's genuine thinking to, you know, national ideas.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

LAWRENCE: And the Biden administration walking a tight line here with China so far refusing to ban or restrict the app on federal phones.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

LAWRENCE: So Maryland and South Dakota became the latest two states to ban Tiktok on state devices. Is the federal government -- is the President considering doing something here?

KARINE JEAN-PIERRE, WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY: So I'm not going to comment on TikTok while CFIUS, the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States' review is ongoing. The Biden administration is focused on challenge of certain countries, including China seeking to leverage digital technologies in America's data, in ways that present unacceptable national security risk.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

LAWRENCE: But no comment from the Treasury Department now on when that review will be finished. Back to you.

GALLAGHER: Yes. Edward, thank you. Time Magazine says this year's choice for Person of the Year was the most clear cut in memory. President Volodymyr Zelenskyy getting the honor along with "the spirit of Ukraine." Time paying tribute to Ukrainians who have fought back against Vladimir Putin's unprovoked invasion of their country for more than nine months now. Let's bring in Joe Concha, media and politics columnist for The Hill. He is also a Fox News contributor. Joe, always great to see you.

I want to put the shortlist up on the screen, not really that short of a list by the way on the screen. If you look at this, you've got President Xi of China, you know, Supreme Court, Elon Musk, Liz Cheney, Zelenskyy, goes down MacKenzie Scott, the former wife of Jeff Bezos, protesters in Iran, Ron DeSantis, Janet Yellen, gun safety advocates. Who does not, in your opinion, belong on that list, Joe?

JOE CONCHA, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: Oh, several I think Trace. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen for starters. I mean, really, this is the person who swore that inflation was just a transitory thing last year, and we've had inflation above 8%, 7% all of this year. So I'm not sure if she's done the greatest job, even though the Time Award is more about who really drove the news cycle the most.

Another on the shortlist, by the way, Liz Cheney. I mean, she lost her congressional seat by, what, more than 20 points, and it appears we're celebrating political theater and grandstanding, and hearings that didn't allow any cross examination of witnesses. But Cheney obviously is a media darling now despite her father wants being called Darth Cheney, so go figure on that one.

But Elon Musk was also on the shortlist, Trace. He won last year, no person has won consecutive years since Nixon I think in the early '70s. And Ron DeSantis was also on this list and deservedly so because he was the one Republican. It seems was the only person to have a great night in November in winning his gubernatorial race by more than 20 points in capturing democratic counties like Miami-Dade in the process. So why did he succeed when so many others Republicans fell short? So if he won, I wouldn't have been terribly surprised but Zelenskyy was the clear choice, Trace.

GALLAGHER: Well, MSNBC went absolutely crazy when Ron DeSantis' name was on there, like it was heresy, like how in the world could you put Ron DeSantis' name on there and you think, are you kidding me? Look at the other names on there. And you can't imagine why they would put DeSantis' name on there.

CONCHA: You look at the numbers down in Florida. I mean, he has one of the highest approval ratings of any governor and is now a real, real threat to capture the 2024 Republican nomination. And all of his policies are wildly popular. Remember what Florida is, right? It used to be a state where it was decided by every election. It felt like one or two points. There are more Democrats registered in Florida last year than -- until last year. Now Republicans obviously taking that over. He's turned that into a ruby red state, that's very noteworthy and therefore worthy of being on this list.

GALLAGHER: Here's a couple of the pictures from Time Magazine's Man of the Year. This is Zelenskyy, of course. He really was far and away the winner of this, Joe. I mean, it wasn't really even close. They kind of put the shortlist together like, well, here's some others, you know, but he really was far and away, far and away the guy. And I look at, you know, when you talk about driving the news cycle, I was saying MacKenzie Scott and had people say, tell me again who she is. And when you talk about driving the news like, you know, I don't really remember her. Your final thoughts on Zelenskyy winning this.

CONCHA: Look, Trace, if anyone said after that invasion of Ukraine back in February that Russian forces would suffer massive casualties, and even be driven back in places particularly like Eastern Ukraine. You would think at the time that was an impossible scenario.

Remember what Zelenskyy said when he was offered transport out of the country at the beginning of this war? I don't need a ride. I need more ammunition and his defiance and leadership in the face of a much more powerful enemy is deserving of all the accolades traits, no question.

GALLAGHER: And who would have ever thought that he would actually embarrass the Russian president in all of this? It is mind blowing. Joe Concha, great to have you on. Thank you, sir.

CONCHA: Good to see you, sir. Take care.

GALLAGHER: Well, Fox has just obtained more new sound from the Moscow Idaho Police chief from the scene of the crime where four university students were viciously murdered. You will hear it first here next.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JAMES FRY, CHIEF, MOSCOW, IDAHO POLICE DEPARTMENT: You know, we have a job to do. And I said yesterday that we're going to do our job. We're going to do it to the best of our ability. And we owe this to the family. We owe this to the victims. We owe this to our community.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GALLAGHER: Well, Fox News on the scene in Moscow, Idaho with new reaction from the Idaho police chief as authorities remove personal belongings from the house where the grisly quadruple murder happened more than three weeks ago. Alexis McAdams just spoke with him. She is live with us now in Moscow. Alexis, good afternoon.

ALEXIS MCADAMS, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Trace, good afternoon. Yes, we just talked to the police chief who actually because its small department had to book this U-Haul himself, bring it out here

and help these investigators load dozens, and I mean dozens of boxes full of the belongings of these girls into that truck. Now their plan is to give it back to the family.

This was an emotional time for those investigators too, Trace, because inside of that house behind me, Moscow, Idaho, this was a horrible crime scene we were told by sources. And investigators, so for them to have to go back in there now when it's still a crime scene that's wrapped by tape here, there was still a lot to process. Last time they were in there, really had a lot of investigating going on was quite a few days ago to see the chief back out here on the ground by himself. We had some answers for him. We were able to get some questions rather for him in and this was his answer. Listen.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: What you guys went in there to do?

FRY: Yes. We just went into gather the belongings, and we're just trying to get stuff back to the families so that they can have some closure.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: OK. What did you guys kind of take out? Was it specific things the family wanted?

FRY: Some of the things that the family wanted and just other belongings.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MCADAMS: And we just learned some new information too, Trace, that we were trying to nail down on this timeline of where the victims were. The fraternity house, Sigma Chi, that Ethan was a fraternity member at is just about 200 steps from where I'm standing right now. So there was a four to five hour time gap that investigators were trying to figure out where Ethan and his girlfriend Xana were. We were now told by investigators just a few hours ago that they believe those two were at the fraternity party the entire night. So that does close up a gap. And the police chief has told me they have more information than people think and are on the right track, Trace?

GALLAGHER: When they say information, Alexis, I'm curious about that. Do they believe they're going to come out with something in the near future because the parents are getting awfully frustrated?

MCADAMS: Yes. Parents are frustrated and the police chief talked right directly to Xana's dad who's been the most outspoken, Trace, about that lack of information. He says it's done because they want this, Trace, to get to trial and they don't want anybody know anything, including the killer to know anything that they have. So when I asked if they could at least talk more about the murder weapon, can they say it was a guy or girl, do the person leave on foot, they said they're not going to say anything because they don't want the killer to know what they have. So that's why they don't release it but they said they have a lot of information. So that's helpful.

GALLAGHER: Yes, it is helpful. Alexis McAdams.

MCADAMS: Yes.

GALLAGHER: Good stuff as always. Thank you. Well, Dr. Marty Makary with everything you need to know about the triple virus threat hitting hospitals this holiday season, and he is next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

GALLAGHER: While the flu season got off to an early start in his already hitting a peak we have not seen in five years according to health officials, a so called tripledemic of influenza, COVID and a virus called RSV is putting a strain on our nation's hospitals, they tell us.

Let's bring in Dr. Marty Makary, professor at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and a Fox News Medical contributor Dr. Makary, great to see you. The chair of the American Medical Association says with flu and COVID and RSV, "it could be the perfect storm for a terrible holiday season." Your thoughts.

MARTY MAKARY, FOX NEWS MEDICAL CONTRIBUTOR: Well, hospitals are on the brink of being overrun and we're not clear if it's peaked or this is just a flu season that's moved up in time. But we're not seeing a lot of COVID in there. I don't know why they insist on saying that COVID is a significant threat right now. We're not seeing many hospitalizations for COVID. But flu hasn't similar infection fatality rates. As a matter of fact, about 4,500 people have died so far in the recent months just in flu.

So the flu vaccine is still a good idea. The uptake is below average, maybe from booster fatigue. But I've taken the flu shot and I recommend it.

GALLAGHER: Is it booster fatigue? Because, you know, you look at these numbers and you think flu shots are way down and the booster shots are way down. Is it booster fatigue or if people just saying, you know what, we don't quite really have as much faith in the CDC as we had a couple of years ago.

MAKARY: Well, the worst thing you can do in public health is to cry wolf when you don't have to. And that's what we did. We insisted on vaccine mandates and mask mandates long after they were really necessary. And as a result, there's a big loss in public trust. Also, the government really did not do the big studies they needed to do to justify so much of what they recommended the including boosters in young people and vaccinations in healthy children. And I think a lot of people generally have a lot of distrust.

GALLAGHER: Yes. And I think, you know, you go here to LA County where they're trying to kind of re-implement a mask mandate and last year or six months ago tried to do the same thing. And the hospitals had to come out and say, look, they're being dishonest about the COVID numbers in hospitals. When the hospitals have to counter the agencies, you're in a -- it's in a whole different world.

MAKARY: I'm still amazed that how no one at the CDC or in the medical establishment can tell us how many healthy children have ever died of COVID. In Germany, that number was zero in the range of five, eight -- years of five to 17. So in order to make any strong recommendation, you have to know what you're dealing with. And we don't really have good data.

GALLAGHER: Yes. And just lastly, I want to know, do you think that maybe the COVID wave is still coming for hospitalizations? Or have we gotten to a point where it really is just going to kind of come and go on a, you know, moderately up and down level?

MAKARY: Look, I think there's going to be a fair degree of uncertainty just as we have with other seasonal viruses. COVID is now a seasonal virus. But one thing we know is that population immunity continues to increase and it's probably the natural immunity component that is the deterrent and downgrading the severity in most people.

GALLAGHER: Dr. Marty Makary, always great to see you. Thank you, sir.

MAKARY: Thanks, Trace.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: The December 7, 1941, a date which will live in infamy.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GALLAGHER: 81 years ago today, the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor killing more than 2,400 American servicemen and launching the US into World War II. Today, a few survivors of the attack were on hand for the ceremony at the Pearl Harbor memorial in Hawaii, one who could not be there sent a video message, 101-year-old Lou Conter was onboard the USS Arizona during the bombing.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

LOU CONTER, PEARL HARBOR SURVIVOR: The heroes are the one that didn't come home, the ones that lost their lives, the 2,403 members of the military that lost their lives that they included in 1,177 of my shipmates on Arizona.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GALLAGHER: And look at that, during the ceremony, a rainbow appeared over the final resting place of those heroes. I was there on the 75th anniversary six years ago. It was an amazing event.

Well, that is THE STORY of Wednesday, December 7, 2022. But as always, THE STORY goes on. I will see you back here midnight on the East, 9:00 PM here on the West Coast for America's late news, "FOX NEWS @ NIGHT." And don't forget Martha returns tomorrow and she's got House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy. House minority leader hoping to become the Speaker of the House. I'll see you back here again tonight. "YOUR WORLD WITH NEIL CAVUTO" starts right now.

END

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HD **Exposed: Election Interference On Behalf Of Biden; Exposed At Last: Biden Election Team And DNC Regularly Asked Twitter To Block And Delete; Twitter Engaged In Actual Election Interference By Censoring A Major Political Story In 2020; Maxine Waters Has No Interest In Grilling FTX Scammer; Woman Dressed In Full African Clothing Outraged By British Royal Who Asked Where She Was From; James Woods: The Government Of The United States Conspired To Take Away My Free Speech**

BY Tucker Carlson, Miranda Devine

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LP

JESSE WATTERS, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: I have a feeling that Tucker is going to handle this story. So stay tuned. Stay on FOX, and I'll see you on Monday.

I'm Watters. This is my world.

TD

TUCKER CARLSON, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Welcome to TUCKER CARLSON TONIGHT.

This is a FOX News Alert: One of the most extraordinary moments in the history of social media is unfolding right now as we speak, and it began when Elon Musk took control of Twitter. When he bought the company he promised to reveal its corruption, the extent to which Twitter had engaged in politically motivated censorship, including the unlawful, the illegal censorship of American citizens at the direction of the US government.

Well, tonight, less than an hour ago, Musk began to make good on that promise. Twitter shared a trove of internal documents with Matt Taibbi of Substack, whose documents are coming out again as we speak, and what they prove so far is very serious.

Those documents show a systemic violation of the First Amendment, the largest example of that in modern history. These documents show that among other things, political officials in the Democratic National Committee were directing censorship at Twitter ahead of the 2020 election.

One Twitter official wrote on October 24, 2020, that he had received "An additional report from the DNC." So the DNC was telling Twitter what to pull off the site and Twitter was complying. The next morning, to prove it, the Twitter official confirmed the post had been deleted. "I grabbed the first one," that Twitter employee wrote.

Twitter was also following instructions directly from the Biden campaign in the final days of the presidential campaign. One of the documents proves that officials on the Biden team routinely directed Twitter to remove posts that reflected poorly on Joe Biden: "More to review from the Biden Team," read one internal e-mail from a Twitter employee just days before the 2020 election.

That e-mail included a list of several Twitter accounts that had criticized Joe Biden. The reply, "Handled. We just checked." Now, those accounts remain suspended today.

So Twitter was permanently censoring users at the request of the DNC and the Biden campaign. That is new. Many suspected it, now it has been absolutely confirmed by internal documents. And of course, "The New York Post" Twitter account was banned. Why? Because they had a story that might have changed the outcome of the 2020 election and Twitter knew that perfectly well.

They had accurate information about Hunter Biden's laptop. "The Post" reporting directly implicated Joe Biden and the Biden family in an ongoing scheme to sell influence to leverage Biden's job as a government official, to sell the prestige and the power of the US government to China and Ukraine.

That scheme, that ongoing scheme that unfolded over years made the Biden family millions of dollars. Ten percent of that money was reserved, as you know, for the Big Guy, meaning Joe Biden.

So that was information that might have changed the outcome of the election, and that is precisely why Twitter prevented its users from reading it.

Twitter went so far as to block its users from privately sharing "The New York Post" story on Twitter Direct Message. So anyone attempting to share the story about Hunter Biden's laptop was told it was unsafe.

Now, that measure preventing users from sharing information privately is something that Twitter reserves in normal circumstances only in the most extreme cases, Taibbi writes, like stopping and transmission of child pornography.

But in this case, information that might have hurt Joe Biden's chances of becoming President were invoked, and they were applied even to the sitting President's Press Secretary, Kayleigh McEnany.

Internally, Taibbi writes: "The decision was made at the highest levels of the company, but without the knowledge of CEO, Jack Dorsey, with former head of legal policy and trusted Vijaya Gadde playing a key role."

All suspected, now confirmed.

Now in public, Twitter and its many allies and the rest of the media claimed that "The New York Post" story violated the hacked materials policy that Twitter had on its books. But internally at Twitter, everyone understood that was just a pretext. The laptop had not been hacked, and it wasn't of Russian origin.

And by the way, as of right now, it is 8:04 Eastern Time, there is no evidence in this ongoing thread from that Matt Taibbi that Twitter had received confirmation from the US government even that the laptop was fake or from Russia. They just made it up.

According to Taibbi, one official admitted that: "Hacking was the excuse, but within a few hours pretty much everyone at Twitter realized that wasn't going to hold, but no one had the guts to reverse it."

One communications official at Twitter, Trenton Kennedy wrote this: "I'm struggling to understand the policy basis for marking this, the laptop story, as unsafe." Twitter's former head of Trust and Safety, Yoel Roth explained that Twitter had to censor the story so that Donald Trump would not be reelected President.

"The policy basis is hacked material -- though, as discussed, this is an emerging situation where the facts remain unclear. Given the severe risks here, and the lessons of 2016 (meaning Trump could get elected) we're erring on the side of including a warning and preventing this content from being amplified."

Now, this played out to some extent in public. Now we know what was happening within Twitter. But the whole country knew that something was being censored.

A lot of people couldn't read it, but it was widely known that Twitter was censoring this. And so by the way were many other news organizations. And at that time, Twitter received a communication from a consultant in Washington who had taken an informal poll of members of Congress, Democrats and the message this person sent to Twitter was Democrats in Congress support the censorship and we're quoting, "They don't think the First Amendment is absolute."

In other words, sitting Members of Congress were encouraging censorship to affect the outcome of a presidential election. That is illegal. It is effectively election rigging and it is a direct attack on our Bill of Rights by people who have sworn to uphold the Bill of Rights.

You've got to hope someone to be held accountable for this.

So back to the documents. Within Twitter, others, presumably all voting Democrats, but some with some integrity kept raising questions about this.

Former Vice President of Global Communications, Brandon Borrman asked: "Can we truthfully claim this is part of the policy?" In other words, is this consistent with the rules? Then the General Counsel of Twitter, Jim Baker, that would be the former FBI General Counsel, who was directly involved in the FBI's interview with Michael Flynn, when his life was destroyed for political reasons, signed off on the continued censorship. The former FBI official signed off: "Caution is warranted," said Baker.

Let's hope we hear from Mr. Baker in a congressional hearing very soon.

So throughout all of this, the record shows at least as of right now, only one elected official in the entire Democratic Party, that would be Ro Khanna of Silicon Valley, a Democrat, voicing any concern at all.

So Khanna of reached out to Vijaya Gadde and here is what he wrote: "This seems to be a violation of the First Amendment principles. And I say this as a total Biden partisan." But he was completely blown off by Vijaya Gadde. By the way, good for him. He's a liberal, too, but apparently sort of a real one.

Within days, someone called Carl Szabo with the research firm NetChoice advised Twitter executives that on Capitol Hill, Democrats were very happy with this. They supported the censorship.

So as we said, this thread exposing internal documents from Twitter as transcribed with commentary by Matt Taibbi is still ongoing. It is still flowing forth as we speak, and we'll bring you new information as it comes.

But we wanted to speak first, to Miranda Devine. She is of course, a "New York Post" columnist. We spoke to her at the time more than two years ago with the censorship of the story. She has since written a book about it called "Laptop From Hell," which is excellent. She joins us tonight.

Miranda Devine, you are at the very center of this story. What do you make of it?

MIRANDA DEVINE, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CONTRIBUTOR: Look, I think we've seen quite a bit that's useful. It's not really the smoking gun we'd hoped for. I feel that Elon Musk has held back some material in particular, there's a tweet in which Matt Taibbi says well, he hasn't seen any evidence that law enforcement specifically warned off Twitter from our story, but that's just not correct.

I've seen a sworn affidavit from Yoel Roth, the former head of Twitter's Trust and Safety. He was meeting every week before the election with FBI and other Intelligence officials. They warned specifically of what they called a hack and leak operation, a dump of Russian disinformation. And Yoel Roth says that in those meetings, he was told, there was a "rumor" that it was about Hunter Biden.

So they ceded that information with the social media giants if the FBI did, and that ensured that within hours of our story going live on October 14, 2020, weeks before the election, it was censored.

Now we're finding out a little bit more that there was discussion behind the scenes at Twitter, quite an active argument about whether this was a First Amendment problem.

But the other interesting thing is how little Jack Dorsey was involved. He was obviously just blindsided, it seems, by the people under him who were intent on censoring this and I think we have to point the finger. You mentioned him already, Jim Baker, Twitter's number one lawyer who says -- he says that caution is warranted. Now, that's coming from your top lawyer, you're going to pay attention to it.

He, of course, is former FBI General Counsel very much involved in the Russia collusion hoax.

CARLSON: What's interesting is, for the purposes of today's story, which as I've said five times is still unfolding, but Elon Musk announced earlier that this release of documents was going to begin at 5:00 PM Eastern. We are now more than three hours past that and we still haven't seen everything that they're going to release.

He said, "Well, actually, at the last minute, we're getting some facts straight." How likely is it? Do you believe, of course, it's certain that he was leaned on by government agencies, just like everyone who tries to release all the information is leaned on by government agencies.

DEVINE: Yes, and the pressure has to have been immense. I remember just yesterday, Wednesday, he met with Tim Cook from Apple who had been threatening even though Elon Musk now says he wasn't threatening, but he was threatening, as was the White House, that Twitter would basically be wiped out by being removed from the Google and Apple App Stores.

And so Elon Musk met in person with Tim Cook. They had a stroll around the pond of Apple headquarters, and came out of that saying, well, Apple is not going to do that and never was going to do that.

Well, obviously, some sort of accommodation you would think was made between the two of them, and perhaps Elon Musk has given us a sort of a tailored or redacted version of all the material behind the scenes because I know from the lawyers who were involved in the deposition last week of FBI agent, Elvis Chan, that there's much more to the story with the social media companies and that top Twitter people like Yoel Roth, the former head of Trust and Safety, basically, the top censor, the top moderation guy, he admitted that in one of those meetings, that Hunter Biden's name was brought up.

So while Mark Zuckerberg has been quiet about that, and while in this particular dump of information from Twitter so far, 38 or something tweets so far, there has been no mention of Hunter Biden being mentioned. But we know he was mentioned by the FBI to the social media giants.

So, will that come out in this feed from Elon Musk? Is he holding something back? Or is it just that Facebook really was first out of the blocks to censor "The New York Post" and Twitter followed suit?

So, I don't know. I suspect that Elon Musk has been leaned on and he has kept a little bit of information in reserve.

CARLSON: Yes, well, there are still thousands of pages of the Warren Commission documents under seal. So, that would be consistent with the way things work in this country.

Miranda Devine, thank you so much. Great to see you tonight.

DEVINE: Thank you.

CARLSON: Glenn Greenwald may be the premiere, in fact, one of the few remaining champions of the First Amendment in the entire Press Corps. He writes in Substack. He is on Rumble. He joins us tonight.

Glenn, thanks so much for coming on. So, like three tweets into this very long Twitter account for Matt Taibbi, you have Ben Collins at NBC complaining loudly that Elon Musk would dare to release details of censorship. How -- why isn't the entire Press Corps out there on the side of free speech and of revealing what we didn't know until now?

GLENN GREENWALD, JOURNALIST: Because the leading advocates of censorship over the internet in the United States, as surreal as it is, are the employees of media corporations whose HR title is journalist.

They have been the ones essentially who took the internet, which remember, until 2015 on social media was largely unmoderated with the exception of a very few small number of cases of expressing violence or doxing people and the like, and demanded increasing amounts of censorship because they became convinced that the reason Hillary Clinton lost and Donald Trump won, which they regarded as a travesty was because free speech was allowed on the internet and that only censorship could save us from such an event in the future.

And they are now advocates of, demanders of censorship and are furious whenever anyone tries to restore a bit of free speech to our discourse.

CARLSON: What do you think we're learning so far from the Taibbi thread?

GREENWALD: I think one of the most important things that has been overlooked in the controversy over Big Tech censorship is that it is not as liberal censorship defenders typically like to claim the decisions, the autonomous decisions of private corporations, which therefore can't be questioned since they have the right to censor whatever they want.

Overwhelmingly, we're seeing more and more evidence, and including tonight, that is often coming from the Democratic Party, the majority in power party in Washington that tells these companies, censor this, censor that, censor this, censor that, and if you don't, we're going to use our legal and regulatory power to punish you for your failure to obey.

CARLSON: That's illegal. I think there is pretty clear Supreme Court rulings on this, how is it continuing?

GREENWALD: There absolutely needs to be test cases. There had been decades of Supreme Court precedent where city officials would tell bookstores, if you don't remove these books, we dislike you're going to start to have all kinds of investigations and the Supreme Court has said over and over, that when the state pressures or coerces private actors to censor for the government in ways the government couldn't do directly, that too, is a free speech violation.

They've done it in the open, Tucker, over an 18-month period. The Democratic Party summoned the CEOs of every major tech company and said to them in public, and it's explicitly as could be, we don't think you're censoring enough content, and if you don't start censoring more of the stuff that we think is dangerous or constitutes hate speech, you're going to suffer legal and retaliatory reprisals.

It's absolutely dangerous. And also, I think, unconstitutional. It just needs to reach the Supreme Court.

CARLSON: How did Jim Baker from the FBI wind up the General Counsel of Twitter? A lot of lawyers in this country, like capable lawyers, but you hire the FBI lawyer at the center of Russia-gate? I mean, that seems like a means of control by a government agency over a social media company to me.

GREENWALD: The tentacles of the US Security State are in almost every single institution of authority in power in this country. I still find it mind boggling how it used to be controversial that the CIA would have programs to clandestinely influence news outlets. And now, these news outlets, CNN and NBC and the rest, hire hordes of former agents of the security state, people who ran the CIA and the FBI and, and the NSA come on and pronounce the news. They're in bed together.

Big Tech censorship is a critical tool of the National Security state. Whenever anyone tries to do anything about it, these former people from the CIA and the rest and The Pentagon and the rest jump up and say, we cannot allow you to restore free speech. This form of censorship is a crucial weapon.

And so they're completely intertwined and integrated, and we're seeing that in the role that Jim Baker, a former US security state lawyer who became a Twitter have played in this censorship right before the election.

CARLSON: It is unbelievable, it's not legal. I mean, the Intel agencies of The Pentagon are not allowed to influence domestic politics. That is illegal. And I don't know why nobody says anything. But you certainly have, for a couple of decades now and appreciate it.

Glenn Greenwald, great to see you.

GREENWALD: Thanks, Tucker.

CARLSON: Thank you.

So this release of internal documents from Twitter, while as Miranda Devine just suggested, is probably not everything they have, is enough to tell us what exactly has actually happened in American politics over the last couple of years. It sheds a lot of light, and they are still coming out. So of course, we'll update you as we get more.

Plus Barack Obama is back, as always. He appeared to discover a long lost accent that we'd never heard before while campaigning for Raphael Warnock in Georgia. We can't resist that tape. We will show it to you, next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: So Barack Obama is nothing, if not a shapeshifter. Here is a guy who grew up in Hawaii, but really Indonesia, went to college in California and New York, but then somehow is from Chicago.

Who is this guy? And where is he from?

Well, it's been many years and no one has really figured that out yet. Now we learned that Barack Obama is actually from the Deep South. He grew up on a farm in the Mississippi Delta. We learned that the other day when he was in Georgia, campaigning for Raphael Warnock. You could hear it in his voice. Listen.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BARACK OBAMA, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: And John Lewis, even in his 70s wasn't tired. I've got no excuses, I can't be tired.

If the men and women who had to endure the sting of discrimination, the smack of belly clubs were at times, if the folks who had to fight those early fights, those were the tough fights for union rights, and voting rights, and gay rights, and women's rights.

If they didn't get tired, you can't be tired.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: Oh, settle down, Boomer. How many times are they going to hit that well? And by the way, if the Civil Rights Movement was so great, then why are you promoting racial discrimination, which you are? No one ever asked him that question.

But the accent, well, we're not saying he actually grew up in West Memphis, but we're saying he learned to talk like he did. And he probably learned it from Hillary Clinton. Here she is in 2008 in Selma.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HILLARY CLINTON, FORMER US SECRETARY OF STATE: I don't feel no way he's tired. I've come too far from where I started from. Nobody told me that the road would be easy.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: Yes, that was in Selma, Alabama. One of the poorest cities in America actually. The place has gotten much worse in the last 60 years. You'll notice that neither Hillary nor Barack Obama or any of these people actually do anything to help Selma or Baltimore or Gary or Detroit, it is just theft what they're doing.

Well speaking of theft, Sam Bankman-Fried, SBF, appears to be getting away with one of the biggest financial frauds, maybe the biggest financial fraud in history. He knows it, too. We now have more confirmation that he is probably not going to be punished.

Jason Rantz is for tonight, anyway, our crime correspondent, he joins us To explain.

Hey, Jason.

JASON RANTZ, TCT CRIME CORRESPONDENT: Hey Tucker.

The disgraced former CEO of FTX Sam Bankman-Fried is being invited to testify before a House Committee this month, however, he is unlikely to get the grilling that he deserves. In fact, it actually could be a love fest.

Democrat Congresswoman Maxine Waters chairs the House Financial Services Committee, and in an interview today with POLITICO, she politely asked the Democrat megadonor, second only to George Soros in donations this Midterm by the way, she asked him to answer some questions about the collapse of his cryptocurrency empire.

But the thing is, you shouldn't expect any fireworks because she is seeming awfully chummy with the crypto loser.

At a Democratic Party retreat in Philadelphia this year, Bankman-Fried made a guest appearance for a panel discussion on cryptocurrency, perhaps on how to bilk the public of investment money into a currency they don't actually understand, so it could be funneled to Democrat lawmakers.

And as you can see from this photo at the event, Waters was all smiles while standing next to the vegan crypto nerd and if you're thinking she was just showing your excitement after trading zucchini bread recipes, she actually tweeted this morning that she appreciates how candid he has been during "The New York Times" DealBook conference that he previously by the way, praised her for being open minded on cryptocurrency, which I'm assuming she doesn't understand.

Now to be fair, Waters might not be the only one to portray the American people in order to support this Democrat donor. Bankman-Fried donated over \$40 million to Democrat groups and lawmakers during the 2022 election cycle and that includes \$300,000.00 to nine members of the House Financial Services Committee.

Bankman-Fried co-hosted a fundraiser for example for committee member, Ritchie Torres from New York, and when asked about the seemingly obvious conflict of interest, she was nearly as eager to respond that she wants to post her photos with him, oh no, I'm just kidding, she told FOX Business: "Well, I don't want to get into that," Tucker.

CARLSON: How did she get so rich anyway? Living in a four and a half million dollar house. It would be interesting to know how the person who regulates banks got so rich by serving in Congress.

Jason Rantz, always great to see you.

RANTZ: Cryptocurrency investments.

CARLSON: Probably. Big into Bitcoin.

Well, here is an interesting story. An elderly British Royal is being canceled for asking a woman dressed in African garb where she was from because I don't know, it's racist, because why? Shut up, racist. That story is next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: This is a FOX News Alert: Really an extraordinary unprecedented moment in the history of social media, and we don't say that lightly. Social media probably has an unbalance added a lot to the United States, but this is one exception.

Matt Taibbi of Substack has been given by Elon Musk a huge trove of internal documents from Twitter. We are hearing now, can't confirm it, but there so many documents that it may be days until we see them all.

As of right now, Taibbi is updating his thread, which he says is part one of the report. Again, these are in for internal documents from Twitter, and they confirm that Twitter has been an instrument of the Democratic Party used over the years to shape public opinion and to censor anyone who criticizes Democratic officials, and more precisely anyone who criticized Joe Biden in a meaningful way before the 2020 election.

The biggest revelation so far comes from October of 2020, and it shows that the Biden team sent Twitter a list of Twitter accounts to "review," and Twitter knew exactly what to do next, Twitter removed those tweets permanently.

All of this, by the way, was signed off on by Jim Baker, who had been a high level FBI official who somehow wound up as the General Counsel of Twitter.

So according to Taibbi, and this is kind of interesting, if you've been following the history of Twitter as a company, these decisions, the censorship was very often made without the knowledge of the founder of Twitter, Jack Dorsey who for whatever it's worth may have a nose ring and do yoga, but is actually fairly committed to the First Amendment and didn't want to see any of this, so he was just kept out of the loop.

It was Vijaya Gadde who was the head censor at Twitter who apparently drove it. That's what Taibbi is finding so far as he reads through these documents, but the bottom line is, the last election was shaped without you knowing it, without any voter in the United States knowing it by this social media company and doubtless, similar things happened over at Google and Facebook.

Certainly, Twitter we know for a fact, the last election was shaped by Democratic officials without your knowledge censoring attacks on their candidate. Is that rigging an election? We'll let you decide. But there's no precedent for that in American history. It is immoral and it is also illegal.

Taibbi is still updating his account of these documents, and of course, if something big breaks in the next 20 minutes or so, we'll bring it to you.

We also have a lot more on the Biden's, their business life, hidden business life, next week with our two-part "Tucker Carlson Originals" documentary on the corruption the Biden family. It's called "Biden Inc." The first part drops Tuesday of next week.

So French President Emmanuel Macron visited the White House yesterday. Of course, that gave the occasion for a dinner, lots of Democratic donors and throne sniffers and suck ups showed up at the White House to toast Macron and support the ongoing disaster in Ukraine.

But when it came time to shake Joe Biden's hand, things got a little bit weird. Joe Biden couldn't remember that you have to let go of the hand after you shake it. Here's the video.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

(UNIDENTIFIED MALE speaking in foreign language.)

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: So apparently, the instruction on the card in front of Biden said, grip the hand and then release. Grip the hand and then release, but the release part got smudged or something, he didn't realize you had to release the hand of the President of France.

That clip by the way goes on a lot longer than we played, but you know we're running out of time.

Biden was either deeply confused or deeply in love, but it wouldn't be the first time he shared an intimate moment with Macron.

At a G7 meeting last year, Biden and Macron were filmed walking together on a beach in England. You can see the video of that on your screen. You'll notice that Macron has his arm around Biden for most of the walk. Was their hair sniffing? You know, let your imagination do the rest.

Well, this week, the Buckingham Palace held an event on violence against women. Okay, Buckingham Palace, and a bunch of activists of course showed up.

And then Royal aide, 83-year-old Susan Hussey made the mistake of asking one of those activists, Ngozi Fulani a pretty simple question. "Where are you from?" And that made sense because Fulani was dressed not in English clothing, but in full African garb. It is not an attack.

She even changed her name to an African name. Her real name actually is Marlene Headley, but now she's going by Fulani, whatever. She wants people to think that she's African. So, that's all right. You know,

you say whoever you want to be, I guess, in the West, those are the rules. But now she is saying that it was racist for Hussey, this 83-year-old woman to ask where she was from about her fake heritage watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

NGOZI FULANI, ACTIVIST: She began to ask me, who am I? Where am I from? So I said, I was Sister Space, it is an organization that supports African and Caribbean heritage women and girls.

And then she said, "Oh, what part of Africa are you from?" And I said, "I don't know. It didn't leave any records." And that's my choice.

"Yes, but where are you really from?" I'm really from here. No matter how uncomfortable it is for other people to accept, I'm very clear that I experienced racism in an environment that I should have felt safe in.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: Oh, be quiet and go away, please. Please go away.

Father Calvin Robinson is an Anglican Deacon and a sensible person joins us to assess.

Father, thank you so much for coming on. So this seems to me, I mean, maybe I'm misreading, like an attack on an 83-year-old woman for saying what's perceived as the wrong thing. Is anyone pointing that out in the UK tonight?

FATHER CALVIN ROBINSON, ANGLICAN DEACON: Absolutely, they haven't. This is the problem. There's two parts of this actually. Because on the one hand, it is very sad, in that it's an attack on an elderly woman for asking a very genuine question, taking an interest in a visitor to the Palace.

But on the other hand, is quite a positive, I think, Tucker, because it shows how far we have come in that we haven't eradicated racism yet, but we are getting very close, because we're at a point now, where people are having to invent it, where it doesn't exist, and the racial grievance industry are having to look wherever they can, and purposefully take offense, where it's not given in order to claim that they are racially abused.

I mean, if I ask you, Tucker, where are you from?

CARLSON: I would say, I don't know, La Jolla, California. I mean, I would be a little embarrassed for this -- I would admit it. I mean, you know.

ROBINSON: I am sure you wouldn't say I am racially abusing you.

CARLSON: No, since you asked. So, yes, obviously, there is a huge moral advantage in claiming that you've been sinned against, but it's also an attack on the person you claim sinned against you. It's like an act of aggression, too.

ROBINSON: It is absolutely, and what's interesting about this is that, Miss Marlene Headley, and I will call it Headley because I won't call her that name Fulani that she has made up because it's very unfortunate that she happened to choose an African name that is from a jihadist tribe of slave traders. I'm not sure if she know that.

But this woman, Headley, clearly transcribed the entire conversation with Lady Hussey. I'm not sure if she took a microphone into the Palace or not, but whatever she did, she is breaching protocol and that is against British law. That's inappropriate, at the very least.

But what is interesting about her is that she turned up in full African garb, which I will say is cultural appropriation because Marlene Headley is from Hackney, not too far from me in London, people that walk around wearing what she was wearing.

So I think it's quite an interesting conversation starter to say, oh, you look quite interesting, you know, what are you wearing? Where are you from? And that should be her opportunity to launch and say, actually, I'm from X, Y, and Zed. And this is why I'm wearing this garb because my charity is all about African and Caribbean heritage.

And all of her bios, all of her websites, all of her literature, says Caribbean, African heritage. It is all over the place. So, she clearly wants to talk about this, and actually, Tucker, her charity only deals with domestic abuse with Black women.

I mean, you can argue, whether you think that's racist in only dealing with one racial demographic, but surely, when she is taking onboard new clients, she wants to ask them, what's your heritage? Where are you from?

CARLSON: Yes. Right. You can't mandate that everyone talks about their identity all the time, and then punish people for asking about your identity. So it's like it's an act of aggression. I appreciate your coming on tonight. Father Calvin Robinson.

ROBINSON: Always a pleasure.

CARLSON: Really a reason of hope for the Anglican Church.

So at the very beginning, almost two years ago of the COVID pandemic, there was at least one person who said wait a second, this came from a lab and that was a Chinese physician called Li-Meng Yan, and in saying that, of course, she risked her life, she fled China, and she told the world that the coronavirus had been created in Wuhan by the Chinese military.

And she didn't get rich saying that actually. We wondered what's your life been like since now that she's been vindicated. She joins us next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: This is a FOX News Alert: Elon Musk has provided Matt Taibbi of Substack with thousands, apparently thousands and thousands of internal documents at Twitter and they're coming out as we speak. We've told you this several times.

Those documents prove among other things that the Biden campaign and the DNC directed Twitter to censor users and Twitter complied and did this in the critical final days of the 2020 election cycle in order and they say this in their e-mails, to get Joe Biden elected.

They did the bidding of a political party and of elected officials in Washington, which is illegal to get Biden elected. They rigged the information available about that election.

That would include the former Twitter General Counsel, Jim Baker who was a key player at the FBI during the Russia collusion hoax who is overseeing the censorship there.

Just minutes ago, Elon Musk wrote on Twitter: "If this isn't a violation of the Constitution's First Amendment, what is?" There is so much here.

Other documents just posted by Taibbi minutes ago reveal that Twitter's hacked materials policies was never a real justification for banning "The New York Post's" reporting on Hunter Biden's laptop and they knew it.

Under Twitter's own stated rules they would need, "Official law enforcement finding of a hack to invoke that policy," says Taibbi. This is just one part of the Twitter files that apparently is going to come out over a period of days, we will see.

But one of the things we've learned already is that Twitter, under pressure from Democrats deleted a tweet from the legendary actor, James Woods, who had strayed outside the lines by criticizing Hunter Biden and the DNC told -- just before the last election -- told Twitter to take it down, and so they did.

James Woods joins us now by phone. James Woods, are you there?

JAMES WOODS, ACTOR (via phone): Yes, I am Tucker. So, nice to talk to you.

CARLSON: It's great to talk to you. I vaguely remember when your tweet was pulled down. You of course, remember it? Did you suspect at the time, it was pulled down at the direct request of the Democratic National Committee?

WOODS: I'm not surprised at all, I'm shocked the way any other American would be if he were a target of a presidential candidate, and a major political party. But here is why I'm not shocked.

Tucker, you may be surprised to know that there was a lawsuit a while back. A woman accused me of saying that she gave a Nazi salute, and there was a whole bunch of stuff about her on Twitter and I didn't actually asked why would somebody say that about her?

Without going into details of that lawsuit, it turned out that the DNC was behind that. I won the lawsuit in Federal Court. That wasn't reported very much.

I've been a target of these people for six years. They have destroyed my career. They have destroyed my livelihood. They've destroyed my faith in the country that my family has defended in the military since the Revolutionary War.

I'm about to be inducted into the Sons of The American Revolution and the Sons of Revolution -- I am not -- you're catching me a bit off guard because I literally just walked in the door and my wife said, "Have you seen your phone?" I was at the firing range, believe it or not, practicing for.

CARLSON: Good for you.

WOODS: . my rights under the Second Amendment, which I guess now that I don't have any First Amendment right anymore, I'm glad that I still have some Second Amendment right. I think the whole thing is astonishing.

I'm just -- and for the first time in my life, honestly, pissed off.

CARLSON: Well, it is astonishing, and as you just pointed out, civil law is used extensively by the left to really crush people on the right. Alex Jones just had a billion dollar settlement against him because he said something that -- he didn't hurt anybody. He said something people didn't like, and they wrecked his life and admittedly, the lives of many other people, and they tried to wreck yours.

Is there some kind of legal or civil recourse that you would have against the people who violated your First Amendment rights?

WOODS: I can guarantee you one thing, more than anything else you'll ever hear in your life, I will be getting a lawyer, I will be suing the Democratic National Committee, no matter what, whether I win or lose, I am going to stand up for the rights of every American. I am not a so-called celebrity. I'm not a celebrity. I am hardly recognizable anymore, because my career has been destroyed by these very people.

And I will sue, and I'm hoping other people will sue. And if it turns out there are a lot of us on this list, where the DNC targeted us and I will quote the immortal words of Joseph Welch when he attacked Joe McCarthy for the enemies list he had, at long last, sir, have you no shame?

CARLSON: Yes.

WOODS: President Biden, all of your stuffy little operatives in the DNC who have targeted American citizens, have you, Mr. President, have all of you at last, no shame?

CARLSON: Yes, and of course, the answer is no, they don't have shame, but we will be following that. And there may be more. Clearly, they were fixated on you, which I hope you take as a compliment, but also propels you forward to bring justice.

WOODS: I take it as a compliment. But it's -- you know, it's a big price to pay. It's not a lot of fun. I loved my career for 50 years, I was happy to be an award-winning and honored and appreciated actor, and I miss my career, and these people took it from me, and they'll pay a price, later in my life, you know, but I have to say, I am not going to take it sitting down.

I think these people are varmints for doing this to other people. Let's not talk about me for a moment, let's talk about the simple individuals who put out a tweet and now their lives are destroyed.

You know, casting directors literally in my business, who literally go online, and they check every actor who comes in for a part to see who they're following.

If an actor or an actress is following me, they will blacklist, all right. It's about time this is torn open. And I will tell you this, it is not just me. But if you take the thousands of people that I'm sure they did this to, and you've got a class action suit. They might not be so happy about that.

They really are in trouble right now, I think.

I think this will be something that will -- they're not going to be happy about in the long run. And you know, what am I going to get out of it? I don't know, but I'm going to sue for -- look, there was a guy who called me a cocaine addict on Twitter once, I've never done drugs in my life.

And they even stipulated, well, he was just doing it, it was hyperbole. I sued, I won that suit. I won the settlement on that suit and so on.

We can talk about it because of the settlement that we did, much more than that. And someone said, why would you do it? I said because it has been my name I'm not going to let them slur and slander me like this. That was libel in that case. There is a distinction issue now.

But I'm not going to put up with it. And if I have to be the flagbearer for this, and so be it. I'll be proud to do it.

CARLSON: You should be proud.

WOODS: I want to say in closing, you may notice that I never talk to the press anymore. I'm asked every day.

CARLSON: Yes.

WOODS: Okay. I've let Twitter as my only source of public any statement I might make because I always say, those are my words. I am not going to -- you know, you're not going to alter it by doing your slow motion video of me and black and white and all that crap that they do. But they've been doing this as a jihad against conservative people.

I was blocked on Twitter for eight months. You know what I was suspended for? Quoting Ralph Waldo Emerson. Can you imagine? That's how crazy these people are.

And one of the things that I said on Twitter once that has become kind of a meme, "Scratch a liberal and you'll find a fascist every time."

CARLSON: Yes.

WOODS: Let me tell you, these Democrats, and now I can say it because they are now my enemies. They declared this, not me. But when they go around calling everybody, oh, this one is a fascist, and so on. Do you know who the fascists are? Scratch a liberal and you will find a fascist every time -- every time.

CARLSON: Well, you know, I realize you, you don't want to do television interviews, but you are always welcome on this show, because that's one of the most amazing conversations I've had in a while. I'm really grateful that we reached you tonight.

WOODS: I'm sorry, I am kind of a -- pardon the metaphor -- shooting from the hip, because I just -- I walked in the door, and my wife said, my God, have you checked your phone? I go, no, I was up at the range. In the range up in Lopez Canyon. There's not even reception there.

I looked at my phone and I literally had hundreds of messages. I am like, "What's going on?" And so I can't speak about this as what the informed consent that I would like to, and I can't speak as intelligently as I would like to, but you know, when you see your name on an enemies list, you want to say to your enemies, you know, really an interesting thing.

When you declare somebody as your enemy, they can now say, you're my enemy, too. And the funny thing about the Constitution, you know, I tweeted something today about James Monroe. You know who James Monroe, President of the United States, by the way later on. You know how old he was when they signed the Declaration of Independence?

CARLSON: N.

WOODS: He was 18 years old. Eighteen years old. Okay? John Adams was 19 years old. You know, when they talk about, oh, these old White man who wrote the Constitution. They were teenagers fighting for an independent way of life, fighting for rights, the most precious of which, the most precious of which was the right to free speech.

And the government of the United States conspired to take my free speech and throw it in the gutter. And if there is something that they should fear more than anything they have ever imagined in their wildest dreams. The most dangerous men, these corrupt, vile vermin is an American who is not afraid of them. And Joe Biden, and all those rats that work with him at the DNC to close down my speech, I am not afraid of you and I'm coming for you.

CARLSON: Amazing. What do you think of Elon Musk so far?

WOODS: Well, without Elon Musk, Hunter Biden would still be -- and I can't say this, because I don't know the facts, but it seems like he's been involved in some pretty interesting chicanery on behalf of the Big Guy, whoever that may be. We don't know for sure.

So I don't like to say things I'm not sure of. But you know, I think Elon Musk has very possibly, very possibly saved America. I think the ship of state has been on a course rivaling the Titanic, and I think what Elon Musk has done is spend a lot of money like I did in that lawsuit against the guy who lied about me.

You know, you spend the money and say I'm going to do this because it's so important to my survival and my wellbeing, and I think Elon Musk loves this country. It's clear that he does, why would he spend all that money on Twitter, this rat infested app? Why would he do that unless he could see its value?

You have to understand something. You know, back when they had the power on Twitter, the Democrats were happy to say, well, it's a private site. It's not like it's the town square. You know, they can say whatever they want. They're not saying it now that Elon Musk owns it.

But it was in fact, the town square. It was in fact a forum for free speech and if you have a town square where only some people are allowed to use it, then you don't really have a free country. We know in this country what it was like, when certain citizens weren't allowed to speak, when they had to step off the sidewalk because a person was different skin color was walking down the street, you know, and I'm not going to compare anything to what Black people in America went through because there is no comparison. There is no comparison

But, I, okay --

CARLSON: James Woods, I don't know what to say other than thank you. Thank you for coming on. Thank you for explaining that and congratulations on your vindication. I hope we see you soon.

Sean Hannity right now.

END

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SE News; Domestic

HD **Personnel Check: Who Exactly Works For Joe Biden; Inside Joe Biden's Circus Show; Robbers Steal \$35K In Products As People Look On; Insane Leftists Riot At Charlie Kirk Campus Event; Sperm Counts Have Been Cut In Half Since 1972; Sam Bankman-Fried Is Confident He Is Untouchable; Rat Catchers: Rats Have The Ability To Sniff Out An Opening 300 Feet Away; Americans Getting Fed Up With Woke Companies**

BY Tucker Carlson, Trace Gallagher

WC 7,750 words

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SC TCARL

LA English

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LP

JESSE WATTERS, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: I haven't seen a personal check since 1992. Yes, I probably could have taken cash out. But I mean, in New York, you can't walk around with that type of money.

Tucker is up next. Always remember, I'm Watters. This is my world.

TD

TUCKER CARLSON, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Good evening, and welcome to TUCKER CARLSON TONIGHT.

Tonight, we're going to start with a confession. For all the time that we spent yapping about the Biden White House and have for the past two years, it's striking how little we really know about what goes on there. Who exactly works for Joe Biden? What do they do all day? What stage of gender transition are they in?

Those are all fair and necessary questions. So tonight, in an attempt to answer them, we'd like to roll out the first installment in a regular educational feature we're calling "Who runs your government?" Tonight's focus: Sam Brinton.

Sam Brinton is one of the people who runs your government. Brinton is a senior official at the Department of Energy. His job is to oversee this country's nuclear waste disposal. Brinton makes sure that spent fuel rods are safely stored. That's a bigger responsibility than you might know.

Most people assume that once a rod is spent, you can ignore it and move on to something else. Maybe take your dog to the park, but that's not true. The spent rods are often the hardest to deal with, and Sam Brinton is an expert on this topic.

But that's not all he is. Brinton is also nonbinary, gender fluid, and possibly two-spirit. That's his real superpower and it is why Joe Biden hired him for such a sensitive job. Here's Brinton in 2019 in a clip the White House Personnel Office clearly reviewed before bringing him aboard.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SAM BRINTON, AMERICAN NUCLEAR ENGINEER: I am Sam Brinton and I serve as head of Advocacy and Government Affairs for the Trevor Project.

I find freedom to be a beautiful concept. Many of my friends say that sometimes I'm a little too free. I tend to be myself.

The power of freedom is the ability to be one's self isn't necessarily hindered, but is rather celebrated.

I'm a gender-fluid individual who walks the Halls of Congress.

Talk about the power of being free every day to hear my stilettos click on those marble floors, and yet know that I deserve to be in that room just as much as anybody else.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: Now, traditionally, there haven't been a lot of guys at the Energy Department whose stilettos click on marble floors. So, from the beginning, you knew that Sam Brinton's portfolio would extend far beyond nuclear waste, and indeed it does.

When there's a crisis in the Biden White House, Sam Brinton is the man/woman they turn to.

On September 16th of this year, there was a crisis in the White House. Ron DeSantis had just airlifted a group of illegal aliens from Latin America onto the idyllic Massachusetts island of Martha's Vineyard. The problem for the Biden administration was pretty obvious. How do you publicly support open borders without offending your own high dollar donors, many of whom vacation on Martha's Vineyard and don't want to share their beaches with Brazilians who have only high school degrees? That's a tough one, but Sam Brinton had a plan.

Like the OSS in wartime France, he sketched out a complex diversionary operation designed to rescue the White House from this disaster. Brinton traveled incognito to the Minneapolis-St. Paul Airport, and he headed for the baggage claim. There he found the enemy's Achilles heel. He found a \$2,000.00 roller bag, unguarded and stuffed with fashionable women's clothing.

With maximum stealth, Sam Brinton then flew the clothes back to HQ in Washington and added them to his own wardrobe. The operation was a success.

Sam Brinton's spunky new outfit sent shockwaves through the patriarchy. Clicking in high heels were one thing, but a sequined taffeta halter top? There was no stopping him or the administration he worked for.

With his new clothes, Brinton flew to Los Angeles, where he headlined a seminar on his two areas of demonstrated expertise: The hard sciences and sexual bondage.

The seminar was called "Spanking: From Calculus to Chemistry" and it promised to explain why, "Physics is a pivotal part of the kink experience."

Brinton's alma mater, MIT, was deeply impressed. The school posted a glowing profile of its kink-savvy graduate on its website, complete with a picture of Sam Brinton wearing clothes that appeared to be taken from the roller bag at the Minneapolis Airport.

"Sam Brinton," declared MIT, which is a university, "Saves the world."

Unfortunately, local police had a different view of Sam Brinton. As it turns out, there are surveillance cameras in the Minneapolis Airport and those cameras captured Brinton removing the ID tags from the roller bag on the carousel. This was proof that it wasn't a mix-up. Sam Brinton stole some lady's dresses and underwear and then traveled around the country wearing them. That's a crime, even in 2022.

So, police arrested Brinton and they charged him with felony theft. So, going forward, at some point, it looks like somebody else is going to have to deal with America's spent fuel rods.

Thankfully, the White House already has a candidate in mind. That would be Dylan Mulvaney, TikTok star and adviser to the president of the United States. Department of Energy, meet your latest nuclear waste engineer.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DYLAN MULVANEY, AMERICAN ACTRESS AND TRANSGENDER RIGHTS ACTIVIST: It's my first winter season as a woman, and it's also the first winter that I have boobies.

I especially love that I smell like vanilla cashmere. I mean, who wouldn't want their breasts to smell like vanilla cashmere?

And just a reminder that people of all genders use tampons, not just women.

I forgot that my crotch doesn't look like other women's crotches sometimes because mine doesn't look like a little Barbie pocket and we all just normalize women having bulges sometimes.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: "All people use tampons, not just women," says Dylan Mulvaney. Now, we don't know if Dylan Mulvaney spelled that out in detail for the President of the United States when he and Biden met recently at the White House as they did.

But we can tell you what Dylan Mulvaney has just said is science, pure 200- proof, make-your-eyes-water-scientific-fact, the kind you want a shot of early in the morning after a rough night. No mixers, thanks. I'll take my science straight up and wipe my mouth on my sleeve.

And that's what it's like every day at the White House under Joe Biden -- a raging, nonstop science party. As Miss Karine Jean-Pierre explained to an awestruck press corps the other day, sometimes after his nap, Joe Biden will go ahead and meet with science people. That's how he relaxes, with top scientists. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KARINE JEAN-PIERRE, WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY: Today, President Biden met with three US winners of the 2022 Nobel Prize: Dr. Carolyn Bertozzi, who won the Nobel Prize in Chemistry; Dr. John Clauser, who won the Nobel Prize in Physics; and Dr. Douglas Diamond, who won the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: So, Joe Biden met with not one, not two, but three winners of the Nobel Prize. Now, to be clear, it wasn't the Nobel Prize. The Nobel Prize is a trademarked brand. It's slightly different, in the same way that that \$12.00 handbag you bought on Canal Street wasn't, strictly speaking, made by Louis Vuitton, but whatever. It was a decent bag and you got a good price on it.

And it's the same with the Nobel Prize. It's not the Nobel Prize, but it is noble. It's a noble prize. That's how it got its name. Ask Karine Jean- Pierre. She knows.

Now at this point, you may have concluded -- and this was not our intention, we're just reporting the facts here -- but you may have decided, based on the evidence, that a lot of the people who run your government under Joe Biden are stupid and silly and have weird personal lives.

And of course, that's true, but it's not the whole story.

A lot of them are also megalomaniacs who have no idea how stupid and silly they are. So, for government employees in that category, Kamala Harris will always be an inspiration, living proof that inflated self-esteem and an affair with Willie Brown can literally catapult you to the top.

And the trick here is endurance. No matter how embarrassing you may be, you just keep going. That's the lesson of Kamala and here she is in the Philippines just last week proving it.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

(CHILDREN speaking in foreign language.)

KAMALA HARRIS, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: Thank you. Thank you. I'm so happy to see you. What a warm welcome. Thank you.

Are you going to keep dancing? Yes? Show me the dance. Show me the dance.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: "Dance, peasants, dance. Dance for me. Show me the dance." It works. That's the Vice President of the United States commanding peasants to dance for er. It always works.

It's working for Janet Yellen. Janet Yellen is Joe Biden's Treasury Secretary, but she is more than that. She has a past.

If the American economy looks a little precarious right now, if you sense maybe we're headed for a fall in a big way, well, that's in part because of Janet Yellen and her thoroughly and completely irresponsible behavior as the Chair of the Federal Reserve.

So, Janet Yellen has personally done more than maybe any living American to bring our country steep inflation and yet another housing bubble, which is apparently about to burst, taking a lot of our economy with it.

So, Janet Yellen did that -- by printing tons of cheap money and then getting kickbacks in the form of speaking fees from the Wall Street banks. That happened, and you can look it up and find for yourself that it happened.

But here's the key. Janet Yellen has no intention of admitting that it happened and as a Biden White House official, she doesn't have to admit it. You know what she can do? She can blame the whole thing on you, peasant, and last night, she did. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JANET YELLEN, US TREASURY SECRETARY: It turned out the pandemic had very special impacts on the economy. Remember, everybody stopped spending on services. They were in their homes for a year or more. They wanted to buy grills and office furniture. They were working from home. They suddenly started splurging on goods.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: Oh, they splurged on grills. It had nothing to do with the fact that I ran the Fed, which controls our money supply and therefore controls our economy at the deepest level and I printed so much money that it's not worth anything anymore and that's why our economy is about to blow up, but that's not what did it.

You bought a grill. Next time, don't do that. Dance, peasant, dance.

Adam Carolla is a great dancer, also host of "The Adam Carolla Show" joins us tonight.

So, Adam Carolla, it's a great country, but the deeper you look at the people who are actually running it, the more you get the sense this is all sort of some kind of elaborate "SNL" sketch where they put literally the dumbest people in the world in charge of the best country.

ADAM CAROLLA, COMEDIAN AND AUTHOR "EVERYTHING REMINDS ME OF SOMETHING: Well, let's not forget Admiral Levine, because, I mean, you have to picture Admiral Levine and the guy in charge of the spent uranium and picture with North Korea, Russia, or Iran who are thinking about this country, when they see a picture of those two standing next to each other.

It is all a diversity hire, and this is a problem. And people get a lot of crap for talking about diversity hires. It's great to have a diverse group, but that can't be the only criteria we use for hiring people in super important positions.

You could never do that with a sports franchise. You know, Kamala Harris, what would you hire her to do? I wouldn't hire her to manage a colliery mine in Burbank, California, much less be the Vice President of the United States.

CARLSON: Well, it's a little bit weird being a fellow old person, having grown up in a world where liberals told us your sex life has no bearing on your job, your ability to do your job. You can't be judged for who you sleep with, which is kind of fine with me, actually.

All of a sudden, you're seeing people getting hired because of their sexual identity and who they sleep with, and put into positions that kind of matter like managing nuclear waste, purely because they dress in women's clothes. Like when did that change?

CAROLLA: We decided -- you know, we went from we don't like it to we will tolerate it, to fine, do whatever you want, to celebrating it. And now, we're all sort of forced to celebrate the diversity and we should be celebrating people's ability to do their damn jobs, not their diversity.

I would be fine with a thousand cops and a thousand firemen in my neighborhood who didn't look anything like me and we shared nothing in common.

CARLSON: I agree.

CAROLLA: But who did their job exquisitely well, and I feel the same way about my airline pilot.

CARLSON: Yes. So do you think there is a mocking quality here though? It's like all the people out there in the country who are paying for the country, sending half their paychecks dutifully and never cheat on their taxes, follow all the rules, and then you hire a guy like that to manage spent fuel rods or a woman like that at the podium in the Briefing Room or a Vice President like this, and you're basically just given the finger to people who were like doing their duty.

CAROLLA: I think it's an off shoot of us thinking that a politician is an important job and they don't really do anything, because at the core of all this, America sits back and goes, okay, but what do they really do? And if you said, well, why don't we get that guy to be a submarine commander? We'd go, whoa, are you kidding? He's going to get some people killed.

And if we said, why don't we get Janet Yellen to run Nabisco? We'd go, run Nabisco? She's going to run it into the ground. No, you wouldn't give her job like that. You wouldn't give any people that we've seen on the screen today and important job in your world because you'd go, hell no, I wouldn't trust them to do it.

But we think -- we don't even know what politicians do. I mean, look at Fetterman. You know what I mean? We just go, I don't know, what's he going to do? Is he going to screw it up any more than it's already screwed up? How bad could one guy screw it up?

CARLSON: Yes.

CAROLLA: I mean, it really just shows the lack of seriousness that we have about politicians today.

CARLSON: Right. No, and it makes everybody cynical in the end, you know, and you think like -- it'll never get better, but it can get better and better people will make it better, I think.

Adam Carolla, great to see you. Thank you so much.

CAROLLA: Thanks, Tucker.

CARLSON: So you're always hearing about how dangerous the right is, stochastic terrorism. They're criticizing me, that's the same as murder.

But whenever you see someone threatened in public for his political views, it's like a hundred percent a conservative being threatened by Antifa or some variation. That happened to Charlie Kirk last night. He tried to visit a college campus in New Mexico. The riot police had to be deployed. Yes, in America 2022.

Charlie Kirk joins us next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: Thieves walked right into an Apple store in Palo Alto, California in broad daylight in one of the busiest shopping days of the year and just began stealing stuff, nobody stopped them. The footage is hard to watch. It is hard to believe.

FOX's Trace Gallagher has it for us now.

Hey, Trace.

TRACE GALLAGHER, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT: Hey, Tucker.

Palo Alto, of course, the home to Stanford University and 10 miles away from Apple headquarters in Cupertino. The store is crowded with shoppers when two people walk in wearing masks. They then start walking between and in front of customers stealing iPhones, iPads, computers from the display cases. I mean, they are literally ripping them from their security cords.

One of the Apple employees hears a robber make an announcement to shoppers threatening physical violence to anyone that tries to stop them.

So under California law, that means the crime now includes force or fear, elevating it to felony robbery. And while the heist is underway, the employees are trying to keep customers away from the criminals when somebody says this. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Just let them go.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Should we stop them?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Just let them go.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GALLAGHER: So not only do the robbers face zero resistance, the customers just keep shopping, calmly shopping as if this happens every day.

Then again the sad truth is, it does happen every day. This very store has been hit numerous times over the years.

As far as this robbery goes, police are now looking for two Black men who fled the scene in a red Mazda hatchback. For the record, they stole about \$35,000.00 in merchandise. Police have no suspects and I just talked to a defense attorney who told me police are likely not looking for suspects, further incentivizing the very lucrative business in California of stealing -- Tucker.

CARLSON: Beyond belief.

Trace Gallagher, thank you so much. Appreciate it.

GALLAGHER: You bet.

CARLSON: A healthy country with people like that can get shot because you can't allow that or else civilization falls apart.

Trace Gallagher, midnights, every night, he is the best.

Well, here's the story you have definitely seen before: A major college campus erupted into violence when someone tried to say things that were not approved by the people in charge, the Biden administration and Apple. That happened last night at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque.

Charlie Kirk visited the campus and riot police had to be deployed. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: [Bleep] you. Get the [bleep] out of our campus.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Antifa, who are you?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Just a reporter.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: You're a reporter.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: He is a [bleep] White cowboy. That's what the [bleep] he is, right? [Bleep] cowboy? [Bleep].

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: What do you think about the cops?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Cops? [Bleep] them. You know what I say, American. [Bleep] Americans, especially the cops. [Bleep] you.

(PEOPLE chanting.)

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: Oh, but the threat is the Proud Boys and QAnon.

Charlie Kirk is the Founder and President of Turning Point, USA. He joins tonight.

Charlie, thanks so much for coming on. This was clearly organized. A lot of the signs were pre-printed. Who were these people? Do you know?

CHARLIE KIRK, FOUNDER, TURNING POINT USA: It's a good question. I wonder if they're paid and why they were spending their evenings to protest me and our Turning Point USA Chapter just to talk about the US Constitution and freedom of speech.

It is really interesting when you try to show up on a college campus and do an optional voluntary event how angry the other side gets, but this is a very important moment for people to recognize and understand that the other side, the left, the radical left, they are acting like the very same domestic violent extremists that the entire Federal government is now organized to go after and we're told that's on the American right.

Really? Go look at that footage. Is that the Proud Boys? Is that the American right? Are those conservatives? No. Those people are on the left, and I wonder who is financing them and who's behind it?

This is the third time this semester that we've done an event on this campus, the other two had to be canceled or ended abruptly because of these who people intervened. So I went there on a personal mission. Because the way -- the only way we lose right now is if we don't show up.

So I went there last evening just to send a message to every one of these people, to send a message to anyone that's watching that we're going to stand for free speech and you are not going to be able to disrupt our events or bully our students with force. And thankfully, the event went very well despite their best protest and their violence. Three people were arrested last evening.

CARLSON: But I noticed their signs are so familiar. "You're a racist." "You're a White supremacist." I happen to know that you argue, you even address race for a colorblind society, which is of course the opposite of the antidote to racism. Why is it always that slur?

I mean there are probably things you believe that they don't, they could attack you on those. But no, they called you a White supremacist and they always do. Why?

KIRK: Well first of all, because most people cower in fear when they are called a racist. They are almost -- they go into a place of paralysis. We are in the era of weaponized name calling, where people ask for forgiveness immediately and they apologize for no reason, just because they're called this.

But there is another reason. It is because the modern left, the postmodern left, they don't believe in speech. They don't believe you're an individual made in the image of God. They believe you are a member of a collective identity group and they believe that they can then shut us up just by calling us White supremacist and racist.

I invited every single one of them to come into our event and they could have the microphone and make their case, but they do not believe that speech is a value. All they care about is force and power.

This is the country they're trying to lead us towards. What happened in Albuquerque yesterday is not an aberration, it is a coming attraction. It is something that is soon going to happen all across the country if we don't get this right. We win when we show up.

And one last thing I'll say is despite everything the media has said over the last couple of weeks about Gen Z, the good news is that over the last five years, young people have become 13 points less liberal, according to Morning Consult. I don't think that the behavior yesterday is popular, nor do I think it's emblematic of an entire generation.

CARLSON: Well, it's just a complete dead end. I mean, it's just darkness. So I hope you're right in those numbers.

Charlie Kirk, great to see tonight. Thank you.

KIRK: Thank you.

CARLSON: So here is a story that should be leading every newscast, should be on the front page of every paper. The human species may not be able to continue because sperm counts have fallen so far, so fast that in a few years, no more babies. What is going on? And why is no one talking about it. We'll address it after the break.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: So fewer people are having children or those who are having fewer children. Why is this? We did a whole documentary on this topic.

So the assumption has always been it's cultural. As people get richer, they have fewer kids. But it turns out there may be biological reasons, chemical reasons for it, which is a big deal.

So NeuroSearch and a leading journal human reproduction update shows that worldwide not just in the West, but everywhere, the mean sperm count for men decreased by more than 50 percent from 1973 to 2018. So, if that trend continues, men will not be able to have children in say another 50 years.

So this is a crisis. How is it not a crisis? And yet the media, instead of covering it are criticizing people for having too many kids like Elon Musk, very strange. Watch this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MSNBC: A unique pro natalist movement is reportedly being led by mostly White, tech, and venture capitalist billionaires who are having as many children as possible to counteract the impact of population decline.

JULIA BLACK, INSIDER CORRESPONDENT: Somebody in the Austin Community reached out to me to suggest that Elon had more children than the public had previously realized and that this actually might be part of sort of a wider project.

And in the end, it has turned out to be a wider project to save the world. They believe it is their responsibility actually to give as much of themselves as possible to the rest of Planet Earth.

And yes, you know, there is some ego involved in that point of view for sure.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: So the problem is, Elon Musk is having too many kids. What do we think of Elon Musk? Probably not the real problem.

Dr. Carmen Messerlian is a professor of Reproductive Epidemiology at Harvard. She joins us tonight.

Professor, thank you so much for coming on. These numbers seem to people like me who don't really understand the science behind them, kind of shocking. Are you shocked by them? What do they mean? And what's the cause do you think?

DR. CARMEN MESSERLIAN, PROFESSOR OF REPRODUCTIVE EPIDEMIOLOGY AT HARVARD: Well, I'm not -- I'm not shocked by them, because this is what I teach in my classroom. And I had, well, I talk about sperm and about eggs and how have we mate and reproduce and make babies, and the numbers are not shocking.

We know that we live in a very complex environment where our environment is hostile and toxic to reproductive health, and this has to do with the products that we're exposed to, the environment that we're exposed to every single day. Men and men's sperm is in decline and we've been witnessing this as scientists for quite a long time.

CARLSON: So you're stating this as fact. You teach it. Products that we use, chemicals in the air, water, and ground are making men -- well, ultimately make them unable to reproduce. Why isn't anyone doing anything about that?

MESSERLIAN: Well, I'm not suggesting not able to reproduce. Men produce 125 million sperm per ejaculate, on average. So you know, we have to consider the clinical implications of that is that you still have a lot of sperm in each ejaculate, and it only takes one sperm to have a baby, as you may or may not know.

And so yes, so the declines we can't really suggest the clinical significance of that. We do know that the concentration and count of sperm has gone down. We know that the environment plays a big role in. The number one rule, it is not related to genetics. Genetics doesn't change in 50 years, but the environment has changed.

And what we've seen is men have gotten fatter, they've gotten unhealthier. Men's health is in general decline. And as a result of that, we see measures of that in sperm. But we also see changes in men's testosterone levels. We see changes in men's sexual performance, in how they -- their moods, their energy, their rates of depression have gone up and this is bad for women, too, because heterosexual women want men to be healthy and happy, and women want to be satisfied sexually.

And if men are -- well, if their health is imperiled, then our health is imperiled, too which is really important for the kind of work that I do.

CARLSON: Everything you've said, as a non-scientist seems inarguable and like commonsense, and rooted in a pro-human worldview, which I appreciate. But I'm going to ask you one more time, do you think this is getting enough coverage? It seems like a huge deal.

MESSERLIAN: No, I don't think it's getting enough coverage at all and I think the part that's not getting enough coverage is the part related to how our environment is impacting your reproductive health and our evolutionary reproductive capacity, and this has to do with both men and women.

And so what are we talking about? We're talking about the food we eat, the air we breathe, the water we drink. Our environment is having a huge impact on our reproductive capacity, and men are getting fatter.

We know that, for example, high fat diets result in decreased testosterone levels, as well as decreased sperm production. So, there's a lot of factors that play a part in this. Diet is a big one, the environments another big one, lifestyle factors, smoking, alcohol consumption, marijuana use, all of these things have an important impact on the results that we're seeing now in this big meta-analysis that you commented on.

So a lot of factors have contributed to this. It's not one particular thing, but there's a lot of things men can do. We have an impact on our environment. We make choices every day, lifestyle choices, behavioral choices. Men have choice to change their diet, decrease their smoking, exercise, lose weight, choose

healthier products in their day-to-day environment, personal care products have a huge burden of chemicals that I study related to things like oxalates and phenols.

BPA, for example, and DEHP are two chemical classes that we know harm men and harm male reproductions. They are anti-androgenic and estrogenic. And yes, we see these results coming out now in big studies that tell us that men's sperm is going down and we've been looking at this from an environmental reproductive point of view for quite some time. And yes.

CARLSON: I hope a lot of people hear what you just said and take it seriously. And I appreciate you coming on tonight.

Professor Messerlian from Harvard. Thank you.

MESSERLIAN: Thank you.

CARLSON: So there have always been rats in New York City, big rats, big Norway rats, giant rats, kind of the rats that might eat you, but now there are more rats than ever, so the city has hired a swashbuckling rat czar to solve the rat problem once and for all. Will that work? Will the rat czar be successful in New York?

Two professional rat catchers assess this rat control plan, after the break.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: It looks like Sam Bankman-Fried may have run the biggest scam in history, but he doesn't seem worried about being prosecuted for making off apparently with billions because he knows the regulators and he is the second biggest donor of the Democratic Party. So he is bold enough to go on television and seem unashamed.

Yesterday, he headlined "The New York Times" DealBook Summit. This morning, he was on "Good Morning America."

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SAM BANKMAN-FRIED, FOUNDER, FTX: When you look at the classic Bernie Madoff story, there was no real business there. The whole thing, as I understand it, I think was just one big Ponzi scheme, right? FTX that was a real business.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: Oh, it was a real business. Why does that guy -- he is not an arrest? Oh, he did not trespass at the Capitol. He didn't walk into Nancy Pelosi's office, so there is no SWAT team in his house. He is talking to George Stephanopoulos in the Bahamas. No problem.

How's he is getting away with this exactly? How is he doing that?

Well, for "Tucker Carlson Today," we sat down with a man who has participated in our finance economy and covered it and is one of the most honest people we know on those topics. His name is Max Keiser is a big Bitcoin investor, and he assessed the Sam Bankman-Fried story for us. Here is part of it.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MAX KEISER, BITCOIN INVESTOR: Sam Bankman-Fried, the key to his empire of fraud is that he created his own play money token called FTT and he was able to create that without any oversight or any tie to anything underlying -- giving it value whatsoever, and this is a whole cryptographic scam that has been going on with the crypto market where individuals -- he is not the only one. There are many people that create these what are called alt- coins, or scam coins, and they create -- Ether is another one or Cardano or XRP, these are all coins that are just created.

And then they list these coins on each other's exchange, and then they buy them from each other to create a price and then they use the enhanced price, which now has a collateral value to go buy something like Sam Bankman-Fried did, real estate in the Bahamas.

CARLSON: Right.

KEISER: Right. So, it's a Ponzi scheme. And implied in the Sam Bankman-Fried scam is none other than Gary Gensler over at the SEC, who should have been calling time on this a long ago, but we find out that he is actually involved and that there is some, what I would call collusion, and the problem is in America, you have a country that's ruled by a kleptocracy.

Every institution in America is tied to Wall Street in some way. They've all been financialized. They all use cheap money. They are all cross collateralizing each other's assets. They're all using that money to buy real assets, and they are all undermining the economy in fundamental ways, which lead to inflation, which leads to unemployment, which lead to all kinds of dysfunctions in the economy and our medical system, and all across the institutions.

It all goes back to essentially, the deregulation that happened 40 years ago, which led to the financialization and the over indebtedness, the over leveraging of the economy, and now in 2022, since interest rates are going up, that's the end of the mirage, that the bubble has been popped.

And if the FTX scandal and Sam Bankman-Fried scandal was like the last dregs of a 40-year bacchanal in cheap money, no regulation and crooked bankers.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: That's all true, by the way and keep in mind that Joe Biden made one of the people responsible for it, the former Chair of the Fed, Janet Yellen, the Treasury Secretary, nobody said anything.

That is Max Keiser. Full interview available right now on FOX Nation.

So New York has a lot of problems -- New York City -- one of them is a rat problem. And the Mayor of New York says he doesn't like rats, so they have just posted the job listing for a swashbuckling rat czar. A successful applicant will have "general aura of badassery" according to the job listing. Successful applicants will also have, "virulent vehemence for vermin" and the "drive, determination and killer instinct needed to fight the real enemy, New York City's relentless rat population."

Does that sound like a plan for success? We thought we would check with the experts, Dave Schuelke, Jim Schuelke would know, they are twins,. They are professional rat catchers. Their business is called Twin Home Experts. And we are honored to have them on the show tonight. Thank you both.

I'm going to pick at random. Jim, will this work?

JIM SCHUELKE, TWIN HOME EXPERTS: Yes, I mean, when it comes to ratting in exterminating rats, Tucker, you've got to start somewhere. But what's going to be crucial is that you've got to be two steps ahead of these rats. You make one move, it is like playing a game of chess. The strategy has to continue to move in a positive direction. So yes, taking all the trash off the sidewalks, the streets, because when it comes to rats, they love that food and water source.

CARLSON: So Dave, let me ask you your brother has use the term ratter. For centuries, Europeans used terriers, small dogs as ratting dogs and they kept the rat population down with dogs. The dogs loved it and it worked. Why not try that?

DAVE SCHUELKE, TWIN HOME EXPERTS: Well, that's the thing. You know, we've been in the trenches with these rats, Tucker, and watching these rats, the intelligence behind them, we brought in dogs, we've done -- we've brought in snakes. We have done everything to be two steps ahead of them.

It can't just be dogs, it can't just be cats. It has to be a lot of different situations. So you have to take a structure, you have to look at the infestation, or even the city and you've got to really look at it to where, okay, what do we need here to combat these rats.

So it's not just one thing. So dogs work, but again, what we've learned being in the trenches is you've got to have technology, you've got to have dogs, you've got to have minks even to get these rats under control.

CARLSON: Minks would be considered -- so you're calling for a holistic approach to rat infestation.

Jim, let me go back to you and ask you a question. I know you're asked a lot what's the biggest rat you've ever seen?

JIM SCHUELKE: The biggest rat was in Washington, DC we caught. It was almost two and a half pounds. It was humongous.

CARLSON: Can you show with your hands how big a two-and-a-half pound rat is?

JIM SCHUELKE: It was about this big and the body was about this thick and the tail. I mean, it was -- it was humongous. It was shocking.

CARLSON: Can you tell us where in Washington it was living? You know, I don't want to hurt anyone's feelings, but where in Washington was this?

JIM SCHUELKE: It was underneath -- living underneath this deck. This lady had hired three or four other pest control companies, they were using snap traps and poisons. And we went in there, had a rodent dog and we got it right underneath that structure.

CARLSON: Yes, a rat. And Dave, one last question for you. Are you ever afraid? I mean, rat that big is a threat to life and limb. Are you ever nervous around rats?

DAVE SCHUELKE: You know, in the very beginning, I was but we've gotten so comfortable being around so many of them. To be honest with you, I have a lot of respect for rats. It's unbelievable the intelligence behind this creature.

CARLSON: Well, we all go native in the end, I'm not judging you. I appreciate both of you guys coming out and giving us perspective on the ratting business. Thanks so much.

DAVE SCHUELKE: My pleasure.

JIM SCHUELKE: Thanks for having us on.

CARLSON: So, all of a sudden you're hearing a lot about ESG. It is being promoted by everybody. It's the idea that you invest only in left-wing operations. One man has decided to counter ESG by promoting businesses that support America. He explains his business idea next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: So right now, pretty much every big institutional investor in the West is guided by something called ESG, and the idea is these are not terms that are narrowly defined. Of course, they never are. But the idea is you invest your money in companies whose values align with those of the Democratic Party, and this is everywhere.

But there is at least one person who has decided to make it easier for the rest of us to buck that trend. He has made an app that promotes companies that promote the United States. The man is Michael Seifert. He's the founder and CEO of PublicSq. He joins us to explain.

Thanks so much, Michael, for coming on.

So how does this work exactly?

MICHAEL SEIFERT, FOUNDER AND CEO, PUBLICSQ: Thanks for having me, Tucker. It is an honor to be here. So we've been obviously pretty frustrated watching over the past few years as these major corporations that dictate so much of our lives have embraced this leftist ideology best encompassed by ESG -- environmental social governance, which really means that they're going to show you certain favor.

Companies like Apple, Google, Amazon, Facebook, Nike, Target, Walmart -- the list goes on -- they'll show you certain favor, as long as you agree with their political views. But the minute that you speak out of line with the beliefs of the regime of the day, you're at risk of your bank account being removed, you're at risk of cancellation from their platforms, or with the inability to use their services any longer.

And so what we decided to do during the COVID season, I was pretty frustrated by watching certain businesses be labeled essential and other businesses be labeled non-essential, and so often it was the major corporations like we are describing that were labeled essential.

So we decided, let's promote the small businesses that make our country special. We believe they are essential. They love our country, stand for freedom, believe in the values that have made this country so special in the first place, and would never infringe upon the rights of their consumers or their employees.

We decided, let's create a platform that highlights and celebrates those businesses. So today, now we are as of July 4th, this summer, we nationwide launched and we're the largest platform of patriotic businesses the country has ever seen, and we're just getting started.

CARLSON: That's amazing. How do you find it?

SEIFERT: Thank you, you can head to PublicSq.com. That's the best place to get started. And it's all free for the business and the user. We have hundreds of thousands of consumers that are enjoying the app actively. We have tens of thousands of small businesses across all different industries.

So if you're fearing of cancellation from your current bank or you're wanting to buy clothes that don't lecture you about your politics while they themselves go use slave labor in China, you can head to our platform, sign up for free and within just a few minutes, you can browse all these different industries and know with a

blessed assurance that you're not funding your opposition, you're funding companies that love America that make you feel proud to be an American in the process.

CARLSON: I would like to buy clothes that don't lecture me.

SEIFERT: Yes, don't we all.

CARLSON: Kind of a baseline desire for me. Michael Siefert, PublicSq. Great to see you. Thank you so much.

SEIFERT: Thank you.

CARLSON: So Stacey Abrams just lost again. Again. She was Governor of Georgia, unrecognized. She ran for Governor, lost again. She is not going back to writing soft-core porn, however. Now, she is lobbying to become an FCC Commissioner, the Federal Communications Commission. Is this true? That would mean she gets to regulate the media.

We're going to look into it for tomorrow night.

But in the meantime, We hope you have the best evening with the ones you love and now, a full 15 seconds early is our friend Sean Hannity.

SEAN HANNITY, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST, "HANNITY": I used to give you such a hard time about hitting the post. You know, you just slap me virtually in the head. I deserve it.

Thank you for the extra time.

CARLSON: Thank you, Sean.

HANNITY: Tucker, thank you.

END

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HD Emmanuel Macron Meets With Joe Biden After Economic Policy Criticism; Senate Votes To Prevent Rail Strike; Methods Of **FTX** Cryptocurrency Under Scrutiny; Raphael Warnock And Herschel Walker In Close Race For Senate Seat; Interview With Rep. Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) And Rep. Gus Bilirakis (R-FL) On Bipartisan Efforts To Pass Consumer Protection Legislation; Authorities Now Unsure If Four University Of Idaho Murder Victims Specifically Targeted; Congress Passes Legislation To Stop Railway Strike Which Does Not Include Paid Sick Leave For Workers; Twitter CEO Elon Musk Criticizes Apple's Control Over App Store; Congress Holds Hearings On Failure Of **FTX** Cryptocurrency Exchange

BY Bret Baier, Peter Doocy, Chad Pergram, Rich Edson, Jonathan Serrie, Mike Emanuel, Gillian Turner, Christina Coleman

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LP

KATIE PAVLICH FOX NEWS CHANNEL CONTRIBUTOR: So, next Tuesday is a big night for him. Congrats.

JEANINE PIRRO, FOX NEWS CHANNEL LEGAL ANALYST: All right, good for him.

TD

That's it for us, SPECIAL REPORT is up next. Hi, Bret.

BRET BAIER, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Hi, Judge. Thank you. Good evening and welcome to Washington, I'm Bret Baier.

The former head of the now collapse cryptocurrency giant FTX says he's trying to figure out what went wrong.

Confusion reigns in Idaho as authorities investigating the murder of four university students issued new statements about the attacks, we'll take you there.

And the Georgia Senate runoff becomes a battle of the surrogates as popular figures lend a hand to the candidates.

But first, breaking tonight, the threat of a crippling national railroad strike has been averted. About two hours ago, the Senate passed a bill already approved by the House to bind all rail companies and workers to a tentative settlement reached in September but rejected by some unions. The deal does not include the paid leave provision unions wanted.

Today's action came as President Biden and the leader of America's oldest ally talked about trying to get peace in a different kind of conflict the one in Ukraine.

White House Correspondent Peter Doocy starts us off tonight live from the North Lawn. Good evening, Peter.

PETER DOOCY, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Good evening, Bret. The most animated President Biden got today was when he was trying to explain at a press conference how much he supports paid leave even though he's backing this deal for rail workers that doesn't have the paid leave they want.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOE BIDEN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: I negotiated a contract no one else could negotiate.

DOOCY (voice over): The president's priority, avoiding a rail strike, smoothing things over with rail unions can wait.

BIDEN: The only thing that was left out was whether or not it was paid leave. But that other team, they're called the Republicans, they voted against it.

DOOCY: A top the to do list at today's meeting, Russia's invasion of Ukraine and there's agreement between France and the U.S. not to rush into peace talks.

BIDEN: I'm prepared to speak with Mr. Putin if in fact there is an interest in him deciding he's looking for a way to end the war. He hasn't done that yet.

DOOCY: Side by side, things were friendly, but before French President Macron arrived today, he accused U.S. of pushing policies that could hurt Europe.

EMMANUEL MACRON, FRENCH PRESIDENT: CHIPS Acts, Inflation Reduction Acts are both very good for the U.S. economy. But as they were not properly coordinated with the European economies, they create just the absence of a level playing field.

DOOCY: President Biden isn't going back on plans to make more semiconductors in the States.

BIDEN: We invented the damn things.

DOOCY: And he says he understands Macron's concerns.

BIDEN: We're going to continue to create manufacturing jobs in America but not at the expense of Europe.

DOOCY: Biden and Macron hesitated to call out China though. Part of a joint statement says the president's also expressed their respect for the Iranian people in particular women and youth who are bravely protesting to gain the freedom to exercise their human rights.

So, that's support for protesters in Iran. Nothing about protesters in China.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: (INAUDIBLE).

DOOCY: Ultimately, especially on the economy, America and her oldest ally seem to be doing all right.

BIDEN: I'm confident, it's my answer.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

DOOCY (on camera): The president is going to have to change into a tuxedo shortly because he is hosting a steak dinner for the first time for his French guests. We've seen the menu, there will be lobster, there will be caviar. There will be three different kinds of American cheeses, Bret.

BAIER: OK, behind the scenes with the menu. Thank you, Peter.

Let's get some behind the scenes information about today's Senate action and what it actually means. Here's Congressional Correspondent Chad Pergram.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: The joint resolution is passed.

CHAD PERGRAM, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENT (voice over): A Christmas crisis avoided, the Senate voting 80-15 with one present, as Congress intervened to prevent a national railroad strike for the first time in three decades. But pro labor Democrats took a loss in the effort to salvage a shaky economy.

SEN. DICK DURBIN (D-IL): A strike or any kind of shutdown would hurt us at a time when our economy is just starting to show positive signs of recovery.

PERGRAM: President Biden dispatched Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg and Labor Secretary Marty Walsh to Capitol Hill to warn pro-labor senators about the consequences of inaction. A liberal push for medical leave could have tanked the deal.

SEN. BERNIE SANDERS (I-VT): This amendment simply says seven paid sick days for workers in the rail industry. And I hope we could win it.

PERGRAM: But the paid medical leave couldn't overcome a filibuster.

REP. NANCY PELOSI (D-CA): If we had 60 votes in the Senate, it could possibly happen but we don't have 60 votes in the Senate.

PERGRAM: Lawmakers from both sides oppose congressional intervention in the labor dispute.

SEN. LINDSEY GRAHAM (R-SC): The main thing is I don't know why we're having to do this but we are apparently, I want to make sure that we do no harm to the economy.

PERGRAM: Some Republicans advocated another two months cooling off period.

SEN. DAN SULLIVAN (R-AK): It will give negotiators more time to get to an agreement.

PERGRAM: But that effort failed as well. Rail workers get pay hikes in the agreement, but progressives downplayed that win for the unions.

SANDERS: The workers received a 24 percent increase in their wages, sounds like a lot of money. They have not received a pay increase in the last three years.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PERGRAM (on camera): Lawmakers needed to act fast, shipments for agriculture and chemicals for safe water would stop over the weekend, Bret.

BAIER: Live on the Hill, Chad, thanks.

Also breaking tonight, a federal appeals court has halted an independent review of documents seized from former President Trump's Florida State Mar-a-Lago. This removes a hurdle delaying the Justice Department's criminal investigation into the retention of top secret government information. This is a big win for the Justice Department.

The documents were seized during a search of the Mar-a-Lago compound in August, the former president's lawyers had contended the former president was entitled to have so-called -- a so-called special master. Conducted neutral review of the thousands of documents taken from the property. The Supreme Court could be asked now to review this issue.

Lawmakers on Capitol Hill are looking for answers tonight after the first day of hearings over the collapse of one of the world's largest cryptocurrency exchanges. Much of the focus is on former FTX CEO Sam Bankman-Fried. Senior National Correspondent Rich Edson has the story tonight from Capitol Hill.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ROSTIN BEHNAM, CHAIRMAN, COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION: I think it's going to take months probably before we truly understand the extent and scope of the failure.

RICH EDSON, FOX NEWS CHANNEL SENIOR NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT (voice over): That's FTX a crypto currency exchange once valued at \$32 billion. It fell apart and is now short an estimated eight billion. From the Bahamas, former CEO Sam Bankman-Fried against the advice of his lawyers, he says, is now trying to explain what happened.

SAM BANKMAN-FRIED, FORMER CEO, FTX: I really deeply wished that I had taken like a lot more responsibility for understanding what the details were of what was going on there.

EDSON: This morning, the Senate committee became the first congressional panel to investigate this massive collapse. FTX may owe money to more than a million creditors from major investment firms to individuals who say they invested their life savings.

EVAN LUTHRA, FTX INVESTOR: Do you have a plan to get us our money back? Who is on your side? Well, why are you not in jail?

EDSON: FTX is in bankruptcy, Bankman-Fried is accused of transferring funds from FTX to another firm to finance risky bets. Those went bad and the whole operation collapsed. The Crypto mogul says he never tried to commit fraud.

BANKMAN-FRIED: I should have been on top of this and I feel really really bad and regretful that I wasn't and a lot of people got hurt. And that that's on me.

EDSON: The FTX founder faces investigations from the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Justice Department. He says he has less than \$100,000 now and access to only one credit card.

Bankman-Fried was the second highest donor to Democrats during the most recent midterm cycle. He now claims he gave the same amount to groups supporting Republicans that are not required to disclose their funding.

One top Democrat says he has no idea Bankman-Fried was even his donor.

DURBIN: So, the cryptocurrency people are active politically and they are trying to achieve a political end here.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

EDSON (on camera): Bankman-Fried says he would not be surprised if he were testifying here before Congress one day. It just so happens to be a House hearing on the FTX collapse the week after next. That committee's leaders say they expect Bankman-Fried to appear, Bret.

BAIER: Rich Edson live on the Hill. Rich, thanks.

Stocks were mixed today ahead of tomorrow's November jobs report. The Dow lost 195, the S&P 500 fell four, the NASDAQ gained 14.

The Supreme Court will hear arguments in February over President Biden's plan to forgive hundreds of billions of dollars of student loan debt.

Yesterday, a federal appeals court denied the Biden administration's request to overturn a district judge's decision placing a stay on the program, that stay now remains in place. A ruling from the Supreme Court could be reached before June of next year.

A few moments ago, the White House released a statement saying President Biden welcomes the Supreme Court's decision to take up this case.

Tuesday, Georgia voters will decide whether Democratic Senator Raphael Warnock keeps his job. Republican Herschel Walker is engaged in a runoff for that seat.

Tonight, Warnock get some high-profile assistance down in Georgia. Correspondent Jonathan Serrie tells us about it from Atlanta.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JONATHAN SERRIE, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT (voice over): Democrats hope one more Georgia rally with former President Obama will help Senator Raphael Warnock when his December 6 runoff against Trump endorsed Republican Herschel Walker.

Both former President Trump and President Biden have stayed away from Georgia as the Senate campaigns embrace less controversial advocates.

TIA MITCHELL, WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT, ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION: Barack Obama is to Raphael Warnock, what Herschel Walker helps Brian Kemp is to him.

SERRIE: Georgia Governor Brian Kemp is loaning Walker his massive get out the vote operation. But retiring Republican Lieutenant Governor Geoff Duncan says when he showed up for early voting, he saw the most disappointing ballot of his life.

GOV. GEOFF DUNCAN (R-GA): You know, I had two candidates that I just couldn't find anything that made sense for me to put my vote on, and so I walked out of that ballot box. Showing up to vote but not voting for either one of them.

SERRIE: With the last day of early voting on Friday, an advanced ballots already topping one million, the attacks from both sides continue.

HERSCHEL WALKER (R), SENATORIAL CANDIDATE FOR GEORGIA: But I'm going to tell you something I found out: A werewolf could kill a vampire, did you know that?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: What is he talking about?

WALKER: I didn't know that, so I didn't want to be a vampire anymore, I want to be a werewolf.

SERRIE: A citizen complaint alleges Walker voted illegally in Georgia because he claimed a homestead exemption in Texas. Walker, who faces multiple domestic violence complaints from his past is running an ad featuring a police call to an argument between Warnock and his former wife.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Warnock thought no one was watching when his ex-wife called police to report his abuse.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: He's a great actor.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SERRIE (on camera): Police filed no charges in the Warnock case after medical experts determine there was no evidence of any injury.

Similarly, it's unlikely that Walker status as a Georgia voter is in any jeopardy. Georgia elections officials say residency is largely based on where a person intends to live, Bret.

BAIER: Jonathan Serrie live in Atlanta. Jonathan, thanks.

An Arizona judge is ordering local officials to certify the midterm election results by the end of the day today. The judge says Republican supervisors in Cochise County broke the law when they refuse to sign off on the vote count by this week's deadline.

Two Republicans on that county's three-member board of supervisors say they're not satisfied. The machines used to tabulate ballots were properly certified for use in elections. State and federal election officials have said they were.

Up next, while Republicans and Democrats are fighting over legislation to expand assistance to victims of terrorism.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. TOM COTTON (R-AR): This bill would take a few billion dollars of unspent COVID funds that Democrats have spent.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Adding the Beirut bombing victims to the 911 families at this time may ensure that no one gets any justice.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BAIER: Russian shelling has cut power to the recently liberated Ukrainian city of Kherson. This comes just days after it was restored amid Moscow's ongoing drive to destroy key civilian infrastructure as freezing weather sets in inside Ukraine.

Kyiv's mayor is warning capital residents, they should stock up on water and preserve food to see them through a winter that could prove miserable if additional energy infrastructure is damaged.

He's also urging people to consider leaving the city if possible.

Back here in the U.S. Republicans and Democrats in Congress are at odds tonight over a bill to expand and improve federal assistance to terror attack victims.

Chief Washington correspondent Mike Emanuel tells us what's holding up the new legislation.

MIKE EMANUEL, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CHIEF WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT (voice over): Nearly 40 years after the terror attack on the U.S. Marine barracks in Beirut, which killed 241 service members, Arkansas Republican Senator Tom Cotton says Congress must help their loved ones.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

SEN. TOM COTTON (R-AR): I hope that all Democrats would join with us in ensuring that we take care of both the 9/11 families and the families of the Beirut Marines.

EMANUEL: Cotton and fellow Republican Alaska Senator Dan Sullivan are proposing using unspent COVID funds to expand The Fairness for 9/11 Victims Act to include the 1983 Beirut attack.

Retired Marine Corps Brass, wrote to leaders Chuck Schumer and Mitch McConnell on Veterans Day, "While the evil done that day can never be undone, Congress now has an opportunity to help achieve a measure of justice for the families of those killed in the attack."

Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Democrat Bob Menendez of New Jersey has concerns about timing.

SEN. BOB MENENDEZ (D-NJ): I want to help them. I believe they should be helped. I just don't believe that when we finally can have justice for 9/11 families that 9/11 family should be denied, and no one will receive anything.

EMANUEL: The House passed the 9/11 measure with an overwhelmingly bipartisan 400 to 31 vote on September 30th.

Any last-minute alteration in the Senate would require sending it back to the House to vote again. That worries 9/11 families, including Terry Strada, whose husband Tom died in the World Trade Centre attack.

TERRY STRADA, NATIONAL CHAIR, 9/11 FAMILIES UNITED: You've worked seven years to hopefully get it over the finish line, and you've dangled this in front of everyone, as it's going to be successful. And then, something like this happens. There's a lot of frustration.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

EMANUEL (on camera): Any unresolved business at the end of the term would need to start over next year in a new Congress. That pressure can force action or potentially a delay. Bret.

BAIER: I will watch it. Mike, thanks.

Tonight, we continue our look at the new National Defense survey coming ahead of the Reagan Defense Forum, beginning tomorrow in Simi Valley, California.

SPECIAL REPORT will broadcast live from there, Friday. This evening, new exclusive information concerning how Americans feel about the threat from terrorism.

Correspondent Gillian Turner is at the Pentagon tonight.

GILLIAN TURNER, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT: The Fifth Annual Reagan National Defense survey finds Americans are becoming less concerned about the threat of terrorist attacks on the homeland.

Just over three quarters today say they are concerned. That's down from 85 percent five years ago.

This comes as the Pentagon announces another ISIS leader has been killed, this time, by the Free Syrian Army without U.S. help.

U.S. Central Command calls the development a blow to the terrorist group, but insists ISIS remains a threat to the region.

Today, ISIS is regrouping in Syria even carrying out operations in the open.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

BRIG. GEN. PATRICK RYDER, PENTAGON PRESS SECRETARY: We do remain deeply concerned about the escalating actions in northern Syria, Iraq, and Turkey.

Turkey is now considering launching a ground invasion into northern Syria, targeting the Kurds. U.S. allies Turkey considers to be terrorists.

RECEP TAYYIP ERDOGAN, PRESIDENT OF TURKEY (through translator): Our determination to protect our borders with a 30-kilometre security strip is getting stronger with every incident we experience.

TURNER: Pentagon officials are concerned this would pose a direct threat to U.S. troops in the region.

RYDER: The Secretary Austin relayed the department's strong opposition to any potential ground invasion in northern Syria. And again, the focus here is on enabling and ensuring that the defeat ISIS mission can continue unimpeded.

TURNER: The Pentagon says Secretary Austin has made clear to his counterpart that the Biden administration opposes a Turkish invasion of Syria.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

TURNER: Moving forward, the Defense Department says that the U.S. military will conduct fewer joint patrols with the Syrian Democratic Forces. This, in order to reduce the threat of harm to U.S. service members who are in the area. Bret?

BAIER: Gillian Turner at the Pentagon. Gillian, thank you. As mentioned, tomorrow, SPECIAL REPORT will be live from the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library for the start of the Reagan National Defense Forum.

We'll have a preview of what military experts are saying about big national security issues.

Saturday, you can watch the panels and speeches streaming live on Fox Nation.

Up next. This week's "COMMON GROUND" segment takes a look at consumer protection and big tech.

First, "BEYOND OUR BORDERS" tonight.

Spanish police detonate a suspicious envelope at the U.S. Embassy in Madrid. It comes one day after a similar package sent to the Ukrainian embassy ignited as an employee opened the letter.

Authorities in Spain say other explosives were sent throughout the country, they have not determined who is responsible.

Cities in China are pulling back some coronavirus restrictions after government protests erupted over the country's strict zero-COVID policy.

Several locations are easing testing and isolation requirements. Beijing has allowed some people who test positive to isolate at home rather than in crowded quarantine centers.

And this is a live look at Sydney, Australia. One of the big stories there tonight. An economist who was imprisoned in Burma is welcomed home.

Australian lawmakers gave Sean Turnell a standing ovation on the Parliament's final sitting. Day of the year, Burmese authorities arrested Turnell in 2021, accused him of violating the country's official secrets law and immigration law. He was released in mid-November as part of the prisoner amnesty.

Just some of the other stories "BEYOND OUR BORDERS" tonight. We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BAIER: It's time now for our "Common Ground" segment. Joining us tonight, Florida Republican Congressman Gus Bilirakis and Illinois Democratic Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky. Thank you both for being here.

And we try to bring lawmakers from both sides of the aisle and talk about things that are actually getting done on Capitol Hill. We obviously cover a lot of the back and forth in the division. But you do come together. You have some common ground.

Congresswoman, just this INFORM Consumers Act that you both are working on here.

REP. JAN SCHAKOWSKY (D-IL): Absolutely. You know, Gus Bilirakis and I have really been able to work together to protect consumers and businesses, and just the American people from being defrauded.

And the legislation that we hope is going to be signed in any minute, we hope, into law, the INFORM Consumers Act, will actually protect consumers from fraudulent products, from dangerous products, from counterfeit products.

And, you know, too many consumers and many of us are doing more and more shopping online are finding that they aren't getting what they paid for.

And a number of businesses have found themselves to be defraud. And so, the legislation that we pass is that there -- these online marketplaces are going to have to be confirmed to be the real deal.

The Federal Trade Commission can help enforce it. And they will not be able to do their business online if they are found to be not who they say they are.

BAIER: And Congressman Bilirakis, that's important for businesses that they are losing money for all of these people that are doing fraudulent counterfeit or stolen goods out on the marketplace.

REP. GUS BILIRAKIS (R-FL): What's happening is these criminals are going into the stores and they are stealing the products and selling them on the market, in the marketplaces. We need to hold the platforms accountable. We want to prevent this retail crime that's going on because the consumers need to know where they are purchasing the item. We passed it out of the House recently, and Jan did an outstanding job. And now we've got to get it through the Senate and get it on the president's desk as soon as possible.

BAIER: Congressman, or Congresswoman, for people who look at Washington and say it's broken, what do you say to them?

SCHAKOWSKY: Well, I think they really ought to look at the Consumer Protection and Commerce Subcommittee, because even if we disagree on a bill and we don't pass a bill, we are really working together to find common ground. And we have found it on a number of different kinds of issues. Gus and I have sent letters to TikTok, for example, where a lot of our kids are online, about the problems that have arisen there. I think one of the most important is, and we still haven't gotten it over the finish line, but the privacy bill, the American online privacy and protection act that we want to get passed, that would make consumers feel more confident when they are online. We have bipartisan support coming out of our committee almost unanimously. It happens more than you think. At least in our committee it does.

BAIER: Congresswoman, what about today, and this may not be common ground with your Republican colleagues, about sick leave?

SCHAKOWSKY: Well, first of all, let me strongly say that I support people being able to get sick leave and especially people who work on a dangerous industry like on the railroads. So, I certainly support it. I think that having a rail strike would be really unfortunate. I voted for both pieces of the legislation. And there was a separate vote on the -- extending the workers advantages. So I support -- I support that, but I am also understanding how desperate it would be if we had a rail strike right now.

BAIER: Where are you on that, Congressman?

BILIRAKIS: Well, I disagree. See, on the consumer protection issues, we agree, and it's so very important that we pass this legislation on behalf of the American people. I don't think Congress should be intervening in this. I don't think it's their place to intervene in a dispute like this. So, I voted no.

BAIER: Yes. There are going to be things that you disagree with and on, and different -- you come from different sides of the aisle. But last word to both of you. Are there other things that you see on the agenda that potentially you two or your colleagues from both sides of the aisle could be working on?

SCHAKOWSKY: We are driven by what is really nonpartisan issues that consumers bring to us. And this whole issue of big tech and the dangers and concerns that people have when they are on the computer, they want to know that they are not going to have their information, their private information stolen, that they will have the opportunity to control it themselves. That is what is in our privacy bill. This is not Republicans or Democrats. This is the vast majority of Americans who feel uncomfortable online.

BAIER: Last word, Congressman?

BILIRAKIS: I agree. And this is a nonpartisan issue, the privacy act, but it's so very important we protect this information, particularly for our children who are being affected by this. And China, what they are doing with TikTok, that needs to be looked into. Jan and I wrote letters to Google and Apple on this particular case. They need to be held accountable.

BAIER: Congresswoman Schakowsky, Congressman Bilirakis, thanks very much for coming on Common Ground. Spread the word up there. We'll get some more people on here.

BILIRAKIS: My pleasure, thank you.

SCHAKOWSKY: Thank you.

BILIRAKIS: Absolutely. Thank you.

BAIER: You can catch an extended version of this interview on my new Podcast "Common Ground" and you see all the Common Ground segments we've done there. They can be found under the Bret Baier podcasts at FOXNewsPodcasts.com, Spotify, or wherever you download podcasts. The whole discussion can also be seen on the FOX News YouTube page.

Up next, serious confusion from law enforcement investigating the University of Idaho student massacre.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BAIER: Border officials say at least 73,000 illegal immigrants avoided arrest in November. That number is higher than the total number of migrant encounters recorded by agents during the same time period last year. Since the 2023 fiscal year began, October 1st, Border Patrol estimates there have been more than 137,000 got-aways.

Tonight, there is major uncertainty from law enforcement concerning the massacre of four University of Idaho students two-and-a-half weeks ago. Authorities now say they do not know if the victims were

specifically targeted. This comes as investigators begin to receive forensic testing results. Correspondent Christina Coleman is in Moscow, Idaho, tonight.

(BEGIN VIDEO TAPE)

GRACE RUBLE, STUDENT: It's definitely confusing, and we are just kind of hoping that we get some answers soon.

CHRISTINA COLEMAN, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Moscow police threw people for a loop last night when they said they did not know if four University of Idaho students murdered more than two weeks ago were victims of a targeted attack. That was a major reversal from what they have been saying.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: We've told the public very clearly from the beginning that we believe it was a targeted attack.

COLEMAN: But, by this morning, they reversed themselves, saying that they do indeed believe this was targeted attack. The back and forth leaving both students and local residents confused and worried.

ANDREW TUCKER, STUDENT: Hearing this gives me a pause to think back and forth like, like what is our sense of safety here in Moscow?

STEVE GONCALVES, FATHER: I don't like it one bit.

COLEMAN: Steve Goncalves is the father of Kaylee one of the four victims. Grieving his daughter's loss, he is frustrated.

GONCALVES: I know these statements take like hours and multiple individuals to review. It's not like this was something said on the side of the street within the first five hours of the case.

COLEMAN: Meantime, the community continues to grieve. The University of Idaho held a candlelight vigil to honor the slain students. Parents of three of the victims spoke from the heart.

STACY CHAPIN, MOTHER: I want to remind you that that is the most important message that we have for you and your families is to make sure that you spend as much time as possible with those people, because time is precious and it's something you can't get back.

COLEMAN: Madison Mogen's father is urging people to come forward if they can help with the investigation.

BENJAMIN MOGEN, FATHER: If anyone knows anything just, please just help out and give us some closure and some -- so we can move on and get through these days a little easier.

(END VIDEO TAPE)

COLEMAN (on camera): And there is some progress in this investigation. Idaho state police say detectives are starting to receive some of the test results from the forensic evidence in this case. Bret?

BAIER: We'll continue to follow this. Christina, thank you.

Up next, the panel on meetings between President Biden and the French leader, Emmanuel Macron, plus the end of that potential railroad strike.

First, here's what some of our FOX affiliates around the country are covering tonight. FOX 6 in Milwaukee as state and federal law enforcement officials announce drug conspiracy charges against 10 people in Wisconsin accused over their alleged involvement in a possible meth ring. The filing states more than three pounds of methamphetamine and 280 grams of fentanyl were seized during the investigation. That's enough fentanyl to kill more than 100,000 people.

FOX 5 in New York City as police say seven children were injured when a school bus veered off the road in suburban Rockland County. They say the bus hit a telephone pole, a tree, two parked vehicles, then more trees before crashing into a house. None of the injuries, fortunately, were life-threatening.

And this is a live look at Mercedes-Benz stadium in Atlanta from FOX 5, our affiliate there. One of the big stories there tonight, the college football playoff expands to 12 teams for the 2024 season. That announcement comes after the Rose Bowl agreed to amend its contract allowing the expansion to begin two years earlier than originally planned. Atlanta will host the national championship game in Mercedes-Benz stadium for the first 12 team tournament in January of 2025.

That's tonight's live look outside the beltway from SPECIAL REPORT. We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOE BIDEN (D) PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: He just miscalculated across the board. And so the question is, what is his - how does he get himself out of the circumstance he's in? I'm prepared, if he's willing to talk, to find out what he is willing to do. But I'll only do it in consultation with my NATO allies. I'm not going to do it on my own.

EMMANUEL MACRON, FRENCH PRESIDENT: We will never urge the Ukrainians to make a compromise which will not be acceptable for them.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: French President Emmanuel Macron with President Biden today talking about Vladimir Putin and whether they would sit down with him over the Ukraine situation as they get ready for the state dinner.

Meantime, the railway strike averted with Senate action following up on a House bill but doesn't include what the unions wanted in there.

Let's bring in our panel, Jason Riley, "Wall Street Journal" columnist and senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute, FOX News media analyst and host of FOX's MEDIA BUZZ, Howard Kurtz, and Leslie Marshall, Democratic strategist.

Leslie, for the railway action, there were a lot of people, Republicans in particular, who said this is not Congress' job to get in the middle of this. This should have been negotiated at the table. President Biden said they are going to push it down the road to fight for this paid sick leave that is not in this deal.

LESLIE MARSHALL, DEMOCRATIC STRATEGIST: They should fight for the paid sick leave. The president is a very pro-union president. Democrats are very pro-union candidates. It's the right thing to do. I would disagree that Congress shouldn't get involved, because one of the things that the president has to do is has to care about national security, has to care about the economy, has to care about transportation. And all of that is wrapped up with this.

So I think that the president did the right thing. And it's a very hard position for him to be in because he had to look at the best interest of the country but also appease the unions, which are huge supporters, and that he will also say helped him to get over the finish line to become president in the last election.

BAIER: Jason?

JASON RILEY, COLUMNIST, "WALL STREET JOURNAL": Yes, I also think this was the right call. And it's what the law says, that Congress is the arbiter of last resort. And I think the consequences to the economy if this didn't pass were real, they weren't being made up. And I, finally -- a lot of this wasn't about salaries, as union workers will be getting big increases in salaries. It was over these things like sick leave and so forth. I think they were asking for too much, frankly. I think the Biden administration has been quite generous in things like the Inflation Reduction Act in steering money to union labor and their priorities. So I think this was a bridge too far, and I think it was the right thing for Congress to do at the end.

BAIER: Also in Congress today, Howie, Tim Cook from Apple was up there. Our own Hillary Vaughn tried to ask him some questions about China, to no avail through the hallways of Congress, numerous times. OK, listen to this for a second.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HILLARY VAUGHN, FOX BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT: -- to evade surveillance from the Chinese government?

Do you think it's problematic to do business with the Communist Chinese Party when they suppress human rights?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: Valor, effort to try to get the question answered.

But meantime, Elon Musk is saying, "Republican lawmakers and some tech CEOs are rallying behind Elon Musk's public attacks on Apple, alleging its control over its app store amounts to an abuse of power. The worst Apple faces from Congress is hearings that might embarrass it. The legislature has struggled and failed under Democratic control to pass any major restrictions on big tech firms or revisions to antitrust

laws. Split control of Congress in the new year makes action even less likely." Musk is raising the Apple question.

HOWARD KURTZ, FOX NEWS HOST: Yes. And it kind of got answered now because while it's fascinating to watch Democrats pound Elon Musk every day because they like the old rules under which you could shadow ban or suspend Republicans like Donald Trump, Elon Musk said that Apple is -- hates free speech. And he demonized Apple, and he said he was told that Twitter would be kicked out of the app store possibly, without giving a reason.

But then he apparently had a conversation with Apple's Tim Cook, and then he tweeted, well, it was a misunderstanding and Tim was clear that he never intended to do so. In other words, Musk got it flat wrong, and he went after Apple without the facts. At the same time, it seems like liberals are just warning every day, Musk is ruining Twitter. It was awful for the last 10 years under the previous management.

BAIER: Yes, Leslie, about that, the White House came out and said we are going to keep an eye out on Twitter, but yet when it comes to Apple and Apple's actions with the Chinese government, essentially helping them with the crackdown, they haven't spoken up about that at all. Here is a great interview Martha did with John Kirby did the other day.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MARTHA MACCALLUM, FOX NEWS ANCHOR: Why not say something to Apple, because we were just told the other day that the White House is keeping an eye on Elon Musk and Twitter?

JOHN KIRBY, NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL COORDINATOR FOR STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS: We have been very open about our desires to be able to see citizens communicate. And Apple, if this is a decision that they're making, then they should have to speak to that. But we are not -- we can't and we aren't in the business of telling private companies how to execute their initiatives.

MACCALLUM: Yes, but Twitter is a private company, too. So why is Twitter getting one treatment and Apple is getting another is my question.

KIRBY: Well, these are completely two different circumstances.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: I don't know. Seems similar in some ways.

MARSHALL: Yes, but no pun intended here, apples and oranges. And the reason is Twitter is a social media company. If you were comparing Twitter with Facebook, right, and we talked about Mark Zuckerberg and Elon Musk, that would be a different thing, and that would be apples and apples.

Look, Twitter is a private company. They have the right to do what they want. I disagree with Elizabeth Warren who says that Elon Musk can't make all the decisions. He really can. But I don't think it's good. I don't think what he has been doing, being completely transparent about, hey, you should vote for this guy in Florida, DeSantis, or you should vote for Republicans -- I don't think that's a good place for him to be because is he going to -- he is feeding into what liberals are accusing him of on my side of the aisle.

But to Apple and to Tim Cook, any company in the United States that has their company and has their production in China, they are going to try and appease the Chinese government, and that's why they really need to bring their factories home here. It will be better for the American people, jobs creator, and everybody will think they are wonderful.

BAIER: Jason?

RILEY: Well, there isn't the first time that Apple has done this. Tim Cook has a history of adapting Apple products to appease the Chinese communist strict rules over there. And he is a businessman. His bottom line is not social justice. His bottom line is to make money for his shareholders. So it's to be expected.

When it comes to Elon Musk, the real thing here is what is the alternative. Do we want a big tech industrial policy in this country where people in Congress are setting speech terms for these platforms? And I don't think we want that. I think we want the private sector fighting this out among themselves. And this is, as Howie said, very selective outrage on the part of the left because when Twitter was being used to see advance their agenda they had no problem with how it was run. Now it's not, or supposedly it won't be doing that, and so they now are fighting over it. But again, this is very, very selective. This is about whose ox is being gored. And so I would see it as the political theater that it is.

BAIER: It is amazing that this free speech argument is kind of flipping on parties, and now Republicans are saying why aren't you for free speech?

KURTZ: Yes, and it also seems that many left leaning journalists also don't want free speech. What they would like is the old system of rules and regulations. And it's not like, and I know the European Union now wants Musk to do a better job of policing hate speech. He's said no permanent bans. You do something bad, you get suspended, but no permanent bans.

And it has flipped. It used to be that Democrats and liberals were the party of free speech. And now they don't seem to care very much about it as long as they get their way.

BAIER: Meantime this FTX story is just so bizarre. This hearing up there on Capitol Hill just starting to get into it. Take a listen.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. DEBBIE STABENOW (D-MI) SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE CHAIR: If our bill had been law, FTX's conduct would have been illegal and could have been prevented.

SEN. DICK DURBIN (D-IL) SENATE MAJORITY WHIP: How long will it take to unpack the FTX from that mess to be able to understand exactly what happened and where it stands today?

ROSTIN BENHAM, COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING CHAIRMAN: I think it's going to take months probably before we truly understand the extent and scope of the failure.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: Meanwhile, the former head of FTX, Sam Bankman-Fried, is giving interviews. And surprising his lawyers are letting him give interviews, but here is one of them.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SAM BANKMAN-FRIED, FTX FOUNDER: I wasn't spending any time or effort trying to manage risk on FTX.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: That's a pretty stunning admission.

BANKMAN-FRIED: What happened, happened. And if I had been -- if I had been spending an hour a day thinking about risk management on FTX, I don't think that would have happened. I think I stopped working as hard for a bit. Honestly, if I look back on myself, I think I got a little cocky.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: A little cocky. I just can't fully get my head around this thing. He goes from \$20 billion to \$100,000, and all these people lose money.

MARSHALL: First of all, my grandparents used to put money under their mattress, OK. Seriously. And they didn't trust banks. And this is why. Anything too good to be true is. And this was a perfect example of that. It makes me shudder that the CEO of a company said I didn't really understand the financial workings of this. I didn't understand risk management, and my bad. My bad. No, not my bad. There's billions of dollars in money that won't be recouped.

KURTZ: This guy gave money to media organizations and he was lionized as the next Warren Buffet. It turns out he's more like the next Elizabeth Holmes.

BAIER: And gave money to candidates, too, and Democratic lawmakers and Republican lawmakers, and that part of the story is not done.

RILEY: Well, it isn't done. But again, Bret, these were consenting adults who engaged in activity here and lost money. They fell for a mania, and they should bear of the consequences here. What we don't want is regulating this industry out of existence, and that is what could happen if it gets too politicized.

BAIER: All right, panel, thank you.

Finally tonight, a SPECIAL REPORT salute. A small but mighty hero rescued his two-year-old sister as their Maryland apartment building went up in flames Tuesday evening. Eleven-year-old La'Prentis Doughty ran out of the building after noticing the fire but immediately rushed back up to the second floor when he realized his little sister was still inside. He suffered minor burns to his arm but was able to get her out. Great job.

Tomorrow on SPECIAL REPORT, we'll come to you from Simi Valley, California, for the start the Reagan National Defense Forum. See you there.

Thanks for inviting us into your home tonight. That's it for this SPECIAL REPORT, fair, balanced, and unafraid. "JESSE WATTERS PRIMETIME" starts now. A little less tanned, Jesse.

END

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HD **Disgraced Former CEO Of FTX, Sam Bankman-Fried, Goes On A Media Tour To Apologize After Losing Billions Of Dollars Of Investor Money, Gets Applauded, Denies He's A Mini-Madoff; Child Almost Dies After Swallowing Fentanyl At A Playground As America Is Plagued By The Fentanyl Crisis And The Government Is Not Doing Anything About It; Democrats Are Waging A War Against Twitter's New Owner, Over Freedom Of Speech, Some Media Personalities Leaving The Social Platform; Furious Over Free Speech: Democrats Wage War On Elon Musk Over Twitter; Picking Up The Tab: Inflation Impacting The Amount Spent On Dates; Cocaine Bear: Trailer For Upcoming Movie Blows Away Internet**

BY Jeanine Pirro, Geraldo Rivera, Jesse Watters, Katie Pavlich, Greg Gutfeld

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LP

CHARLES PAYNE, FOX NEWS HOST: Thank you so much. Appreciate you. And folks thank you at home. Remember, you can catch me tomorrow. It's jobs day. It's a huge day. This market is going to be updated down big. I'll be on at 2:00 p.m. "Making Money." Again, grab a pen and pad. I'm always trying to teach you a few things, too, but for now here is THE FIVE.

JEANINE PIRRO, FOX NEWS HOST: Hello, everyone. I'm Judge Jeanine Pirro along with Geraldo Rivera, Jesse Waters, Katie Pavlich and Greg Gutfeld. It's 5:00 in New York City and this is THE FIVE.

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The Democrat's favored crypto creep and second biggest stoner is really sorry about all that fraud. Disgraced former FTX CEO Sam Bankman-Fried who gave nearly \$40 million to the Democrats and vaporized billions of his investor's monies is trying to win back his friends in the press by going on a media rehab tour. He got raucous applause during an event for "The New York Times."

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ANDREW ROSS SORKIN, NEW YORK TIMES FINANCIAL COLUMNIST: I want to thank you for engaging in it at a time in truth when I know you've been advised not to so, thank you so very, very much. Thank you.

(APPLAUSE)

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PIRRO: And now he's sitting down with George Stephanopoulos to complain about how he's not a mini-Madoff.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

GEORGE STEPHANOPOULOS, ABC NEWS HOST: A lot of people look at you and see Bernie Madoff.

SAM BANKMAN-FRIED, FORMER FTX CEO: Yeah. I mean, I don't think that's who I am at all. At the end of the day, look, there's a question of what happened and why and who did what? What caused the meltdown? And I think that is reads very differently, right? When you look at the classic Bernie Madoff story there was no real business there. The whole thing as I understand it, I think, was just one big Ponzi scheme, right? FTX, that was a real business.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PIRRO: The crypto Kingpin was also a big dollar donor to the media, showering them with millions. But Sam denies he was ever trying to buy influence. Okay --

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BANKMAN-FRIED: It matters a lot and I want to support good media ventures. That was the whole thesis there. And I, you know, I don't have like governance over any of these. I wasn't looking for governance over them. I was looking to support journalists doing great work because I think what they do is really important and I think that there needs to be a critical eye on stories.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PIRRO: All right. I'll go to that last quote, Greg, where he says, you know, he gave money, tremendous amount of money to the media and he wasn't trying to influence them. He said I was just looking for governments over - - governance over the media. I was looking to support journalists who did good work. So, he's looking to have governance over them when he doesn't have any governance over himself.

GREG GUTFELD, FOX NEWS HOST: Well, that makes me feel bad because he didn't give me anything.

JESSE WATTERS, FOX NEWS HOST: Exclamation, didn't get any money.

GUTFELD: I didn't get any money from -- are we sure that's not Mark Cuban in a 'fro? I can't -- but you know he, kissed all the right butts, right?

PIRRO: Oh, yeah.

GUTFELD: You know, he used the veil of virtue signaling, which is all signaling in no virtue, to get under -- to get into these places. Also, his parents are well-known Democrats. But this does reflect the problem that you're seeing in the United States right now. It feels like the adults have left the room.

You know, a lot of the worst decisions in the last two years like the abdication of law and order, all you do is see videos of people just walking in and stealing things. The abandonment public decency, people living on the street. The death of risk reward analysis, let's shut down forever.

These are all the products of adolescent minds and I feel like this pubescent hairball whose voice is yet to change is bilking people who should know better is another example of how this new world of unquestioned tolerance has eliminated the ability to call BS on people. Now, if you call BS on anything, you are considered mean or intolerant. So, this guy can pull these shenanigans and if you call him out, you're the bad guy.

Think about all the scammers that we've seen. I mean, obviously Avenatti, Smollett, Sam Brinton, right? If you pointed out Sam Brinkman at all, you would be considered, you know, homophobic, transphobic, whatever phobic. So, people just let this guy who obviously was troubled, get away with stuff and now he's, you know, on leave.

So, I think that what the most valued person on Earth is the person with the wisdom to call BS. We used to call them adults and they need to return back and fix this place.

PIRRO: All right. You know, Jesse, if someone kills someone and they say well, I shouldn't be responsible for this. I never intended to kill that person. And that's what he's saying, I never intended to cause this fraud. But there are other levels of killing like reckless negligent. I mean, does he -- is he stupid enough or is his lawyer, if he even has one, stupid enough to let him go on and say, you know, I did this, this and this. There was no government -- governance, but I didn't have any intent.

WATTERS: So, he's crypto Baldwin. And Baldwin also went and begged Stephanopoulos to clean up his act. I think that's where you go. You go see little Georgie when you're in trouble as a Democrat. Biden disgraced us in Afghanistan, he goes to Georgie. Baldwin shoots his co-star, out goes to Georgie. And then crypto goes to George -- that's where you go if you're a Democrat where you did something really bad and you kind of get rehabbed.

And Greg was saying that no one calls BS anymore and you're right. Someone did though, Warren Buffett. And that's why they call him the Oracle because he said this thing is a scam, this crypto thing. It's for traffickers and drug smugglers. And that's why this guy's worth billions of dollars because he's into fundamentals. He doesn't buy into bubbles.

You could have a guy steal a lectern on January 6th and the left wants him to spend the rest of his life in prison. He steals billions of dollars --

GUTFELD: And he's still out.

WATTERS: And he gets a round of applause. You know what, stay in the Bahamas, stick your feet up, drink some champagne, relax. Now, before we move on, I have to --

GERALDO RIVERA, FOX NEWS HOST: He's not going to -- he's not going to what?

WATTERS: Settle something with Geraldo. Geraldo, I bet you about the red wave in the Senate.

RIVERA: Yes. Yes. You did.

WATTERS: I've said the Republicans were going to win the Senate. I lost.

RIVERA: The red piddle.

WATTERS: It's because he bought the Senate, mini-Madoff so -- but I'm not going to squirrel out. Here's my checkbook.

RIVERA: Okay.

WATTERS: Now, if I cut you this check do not hold it up in front of the camera because my account number is on here.

RIVERA: Okay.

WATTERS: All right. It's a thousand dollars. I'll put it right here.

RIVERA: So why don't we make it to Life's WORC. That's the charity of giving back.

WATTERS: Life's WORC.

PIRRO: Yes.

RIVERA: Life's WORC. W-O-R-C. So, you'd be doing some good along with your humiliation.

WATTERS: Life's WORC.

RIVERA: Your arrogant humiliation.

PIRRO: Okay.

WATTERS: Don't rub it in, Geraldo.

RIVERA: The hubris of youth.

PIRRO: All right, let me ask you this. This guy, SBF, he isn't entitled. I have a three-letter name.

RIVERA: He's not.

PIRRO: He's admitted he had no real control. He's admitted that there was no real risk management. Isn't that in and of itself, you're a lawyer, a sign of fraud?

RIVERA: I think that he is a mini-Madoff. He is a Ponzi scheme artist. I appreciate this, Jesse. It'll go to a good cause. And Happy Thanksgiving to you and to everybody. I've missed you. I -- first of all, I urge my children over the last couple of years particularly, if it looks too good to be true, it's not true. Crypto couldn't go from, you know, from 10,000 to 100,000 and it's not going to keep going up and all of these.

You know, this was a system that was designed so that drug dealers could exchange value for their product for something as a currency in essence, without the government knowing, without having to report it.

GUTFELD: Are you saying all crypto?

RIVERA: I think all crypto is suspect --

PIRRO: He's saying the Genesis.

RIVERA: -- it's all suspect.

GUTFELD: I disagree.

RIVERA: This guy reminds me of Elizabeth Holmes, you know, attractive in his own way, but a real crook underneath. She got 11 years. He'll get -- he'll get something like this. He is a mini-Madoff. A Ponzi scheme is where you keep taking money from customers and you use that money, you spend that money, and you use it to keep the company afloat. That's what he was doing. He was a Ponzi scheme of epic proportion.

GUTFELD: But if, Geraldo, the Ponzi schemes existed with actual money. So, it's not about crypto, it's the scheme itself.

RIVERA: Well, okay. I -- I'm -- I suspend my total disbelief about crypto. It's just that when you get to be my age and it hasn't happened and --

GUTFELD: Yes.

RIVERA: And anyway, I reserve my specific ire, Judge, to the Matt Damon's of the world, the Gwyneth Paltrow's of the world, the Kim Kardashian's of the world, who went out to their gullible millions and millions of fans who loved them, who hang on their every word and to listen to them and, you know, fortune favors the bold. You know, it was like you made me feel like a schmuck if you didn't get into crypto.

And they should have liability. They should have liability. Kim Kardashian had to pay over a million dollars because she didn't reveal in her Instagram that she was getting paid to promote one of these -- one of these coins. I think that they all should. There should be an implied liability for these endorsers.

PIRRO: Yeah.

RIVERA: And they all did. Remember when they said paid celebrity endorser it was -- it was on the bottom of the of the screen, that's what we should have again.

PIRRO: All right, Katie. You want to wrap it up?

KAKTIE PAVLICH, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: Watching this person, SBF, do all of these interviews, there's a couple of different themes. The first one is that he kind of throws his hands up and says I don't know what happened. The dog ate the homework. It just kind of like happened to me. I'm sorry. And then the media is now trying to turn him into a victim, which is the second theme of all of these interviews, which brings us to the point of going back to the funding.

Can you imagine if a Republic -- if Republicans got all of this money before an election, held on to more seats than they were supposed to hold on to according to historic record and this happened, the only questions that the media would be asking is who did you donate to and they would be hounding them down and going to every single office on Capitol Hill to their campaigns and asking them and demanding answers about how they're going to get money back to the investors that he has defrauded.

And on the crypto thing, you know, Senator Cynthia Lummis, who actually is one of the very few people on Capitol Hill, Republican, who knows anything about crypto, says he's a fraudster. And as a result, now Democrats like Elizabeth Warren want to jump all over crypto and over regulate the market when there are legitimate reasons why people are looking for a currency like crypto as the U.S government completely devalues their dollar and their spending power.

So, all the legitimate crypto guys are like, this guy should be in jail. Why is he still walking around? And now he's making it harder for us to run our legitimate businesses while he throws his hands up and acts like he's the victim in all this and the media helps him by hosting him, not pushing back too hard, not asking about where he spent the money to influence the very people who would be regulating him on Capitol Hill, and then giving him a round of applause for like showing up and trying to explain himself by saying it wasn't fraud. He just -- it just like happened to them.

I mean, it really is -- something smells really bad and it's going to get much worse.

PIRRO: Yeah. I think it was --

GUTFELD: That's me.

PIRRO: And it'll only get -- it'll only get worse when he's in handcuffs. Ahead on THE FIVE, America's fentanyl crisis gets shockingly worse. A father says his baby ingested the deadly drug at a playground.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

PAVLICH: A shocking new low when it comes to America's fentanyl crisis. A dad says his 10-year-old baby almost died after accidentally eating fentanyl in a popular park in San Francisco. The baby playing in the grass and putting leaves in his mouth when the deadly drug left the child struggling to breathe until a fast-thinking paramedics saved his life by using Narcan.

The father is speaking out about what happened saying, quote, "It's not just dealers and people you don't know who are impacted by this. It's tipping over into the broader populace, and it feels like it needs that kind of COVID-like attention, and it doesn't seem like it's getting that." And even woke San Francisco

officials are horrified, one tweeting, "Hopefully, this will serve as a wake-up call to those who are content with our status quo response to this crisis. Patrols will be stepped up in the area."

So, judge the interesting thing that jumped out at me at that with the father is he's saying, look, the government knows how to respond to a health crisis. We just saw it with COVID. Why aren't they doing the same for the fentanyl crisis with how many people are overdosing?

PIRRO: Well, they're not doing it because one of the reasons is that the Democrats don't take it seriously, 95 percent of the fentanyl that comes into this country is coming through the southern border and we sound like a broken record when we keep talking about it over and over and over again.

And it's no surprise that it's going to be found in a myriad of places, I mean, kind of crazy, in a park, in leaves, and the child was eating grass. I think the child was with a babysitter or something. But, yeah, now you can buy Narcan in vending machines which is a sad commentary on the state of this society.

But I want to bring it closer to New York for a second if I can. You know, as if Kathy Hochul isn't enough of a villain, I mean, not following through on the nursing home deaths that she said she would. Not even discussing the issue of cashless bail. Denying that crime is a number one problem for New Yorkers in this country. She's either an idiot or in denial.

There was a law that was or a bill that was passed by the -- in Albany in New York. Democrats, Republicans, New York City, Long Island, all over the state, they wanted to have a board, a fentanyl board to discuss the impact of fentanyl in New York, how to deal with it, what's the best way to fight it. She would not sign the bill, a Democrat for whom Joe Biden came and campaigned.

RIVERA: Why not?

PIRRO: She didn't have enough money for the travel and expenses for this -- for this group that was simply a sounding board that was going to put together a report. The woman who spent billions on a football field where her husband had the concessions and spent billions on something else. We paid double the price of COVID tests than anyone else in the country. She doesn't have money for it. The Democrats are in denial and this is going to kill us, this fentanyl.

PAVLICH: Yeah. The bill was supposed to create a 16-member fentanyl abuse and overdose prevention task force, Jesse.

WATTERS: This happened to Nancy Pelosi's district. Did Nancy put out a statement about this? I haven't seen it. I hope I'm wrong. I hope she put out a big beefy statement because she's always talking about how much she cares about the kids. She says her whole career is about taking care of the children. Well, the children are dying in her district from fentanyl that comes in from China.

All Joe Biden has to do is crackdown on the Chinese. It's a police state. You don't think they know what's going on and who's cooking up these synthetics and shipping them to Mexico? They can look in everyone's phones, they know where everyone's going all over the country. We've seen it happen in real time. You're saying they're unaware of the people that are in these labs shipping it out to Mexico. And then what about the Mexicans?

Joe can't get on the phone with Obrador and say, right now, we're in the big trade war with corn. Why can't we just throw some tariffs up and go to the USMCA and say make this a part of the leverage. There are so many tools out there that we could be using and we're just being a tool instead.

PAVLICH: Yeah. You know, Geraldo the president had a three-hour conversation with the Chinese president, I believe it was two weeks ago and the readout didn't mention the fentanyl crisis.

RIVERA: Well, I think that that's awful if true, Katie. I think that that is -- that's terrible. Fentanyl should be front of mind and I don't want people to take this the wrong way, but I think that enforcement, interdiction, all those things, the pressure, trade, everything, every weapon should be employed. They can be employed.

This is -- 107,000 Americans died of fentanyl overdoses last year, 107,000. That's twice Vietnam so, it's awful. But we can't wring our hands and wish for a different world. I would like to see in every big city, in every problematic neighborhood, a vending machine for Narcan where you go in with a very nominal cost, 10 cents, 25 cents, like an old, you know, pay phone, get your Narcan. It's awful. You want them to stop using it. They're not stopping in using it. At least Narcan can save their lives.

PIRRO: It saves lives.

RIVERA: And I think that should be our priority, saving lives in these Narcan vending machines in hard-hit areas. Like in my state, along the Ohio River, these communities, whole communities wiped out. Every single CVS should have a Narcan vending machine.

PAVLICH: Greg.

GUTFELD: Okay. So, we do know that like a package the size of your fist can kill millions of people, right, because it's so powerful, so tiny. That's why even though it's coming over the Border there's not much you can do about it. You can throw it over a fence. You could slip it through a slat. So, what you should be doing is you should be doing what I think, you know, a lot of Republicans are starting to come around to. Declare war on cartels.

You know, we went into Grenada for less. We can go and we could bomb and Mexico can't do crap about it. And we could actually tell the cartels ahead of time what we're doing. Meanwhile, you got to ease the restrictions on prescription opioids so the casual user lives another day because it's not the junkies who are dying. The junkies know what they're doing. They know what they're getting. They're experts at it.

It's the casual person, the person whose prescriptions ran out or the college kid that bought coke, you know, at a party and it was it was made -- it was part of the cocaine or part of the Xanax or maybe it was just a street opioid and they die. It's those -- it's the casual user that dies. This to me mirrors the AIDS crisis of the 80s. A lot of people were uninterested in the disease because they weren't themselves the target. It doesn't -- it doesn't matter until it hits home and then that kind of jars your concerns loose and, you know, in this case, baby swallows' fentanyl, that's hitting home, right?

RIVERA: Yeah.

GUTFELD: So, I think that, you know, the government maybe cynically didn't care if junkies die. They don't care what our junkies are on the street, they're disgusting, whatever, so they didn't care. Well, it's not junkies that are dying. It's people who just buy the luck of the draw, Russian roulette, took the wrong thing, or a baby on the ground, you know, eating it off the floor or the grass. Anyway.

PAVLICH: Now, children are the problem. All right. Coming up, furious over free speech, Elizabeth Warren ready to wage war on Elon Musk.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

RIVERA: Democrats beating with Twitter's brash new owner, Elon Musk over his plans to turn the social media giant into a free speech utopia. One of Musk's biggest critics, Senator Liz Warren, leading the charge.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HILLARY VAUGHN, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Republicans say that Democrats are picking on Elon Musk. Do you -- what's your reaction to that?

SEN. ELIZABETH WARREN (D-MA): Elon Musk is doing just fine.

VAUGHN: But do you think that users have a right to freedom of speech even if what they're saying is wrong or offensive?

WARREN: I think that one human being should not decide how millions of people communicate with each other. And it doesn't make any difference who that human being is. One human being should not be able to go into a dark room by himself and decide, oh, that person gets heard from, that person doesn't. That's not how it should work.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

RIVERA: Wow. Hillary Vaughn ruling the corridors of the Capitol building, really. Congratulations to our colleague. Warren is ready for war after the White House promised to keep an eye on Twitter under its new ownership, but it isn't just the Democrats who are upset with Elon. Some big Hollywood celebrities like Jim Carrey, one of several bailing on the website. Carrey quit Twitter in the wake of the billionaires take over and Whoopi Goldberg is warning others to get out.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

WHOOPI GOLDBER, THE VIEW CO-HOST: Some things you have to walk away from until you can get the control you need of it. Right now, there's no way to get this control. And so, find the ones that you can get and fix, and then come back and run that over.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

RIVERA: So, what do you -- what do you think about free speech and Elon Musk and Twitter?

PIRRO: I'm infuriated.

RIVERA: Wait, wait, wait. It's one thing to be anti-woke. But it's not anti-woke to be absolutely repulsed by Kanye West praising Hitler or Nick Fuentes being lavishly celebrated at Mar-a-Lago. That's not woke.

PIRRO: Here's the bottom line. If you don't like what someone's saying, you don't have the right to tell them they close their mouth and they cannot speak. The United States Supreme Court, in *Brandenburg versus Ohio* -- I go to the highest court in the land -- says no matter how repulsive the speech is, America was founded on the concept of free speech. Hate speech is protected. I'm tired of saying it.

These people like Elizabeth Warren who says it's wrong or offensive that one human being should decide. Well, I don't like that Tim Cook is taking down the airdrop for the protesters in China. That's one guy. And you know, it goes on and on. That's not up to us. We -- the thing that makes America different from every other country is that we have the right of freedom of speech, which means we have freedom of thought. We are not a fascist nation.

RIVERA: Are we free to say Jews will not replace us?

PIRRO: You're free to say whatever you want. I can slap you if I feel like it, but then I'll be prosecuted, OK. Here's the bottom line. If you don't like it, that doesn't mean the man is -- or the woman is prevented from saying it. My God, how far have we gotten from the founding of this nation?

RIVERA: Well -- all right, enough about Kanye. But you know, the thing about -- my problem with Musk is -- and I'm again, free speech advocate, is that too much of what he says is about himself, my home feed on Twitter.

WATTERS: Don't you hate that, Geraldo? Don't you hate that?

RIVERA: My home --

WATTERS: Can you believe this -- the egos on these people.

PIRRO: Yes.

RIVERA: My home feed on Twitter is Elon Musk. Every story is Elon Musk. I'm brave and courageous and --

WATTERS: What is your "ONE MORE THING," stories about Geraldo, from Geraldo, involving Geraldo? You're the Elon Musk in THE FIVE, Geraldo.

RIVERA: I wish.

WATTERS: And you can slap someone in the face and not get prosecuted if your Will Smith. That's what happens.

PIRRO: Very good.

WATTERS: And our very own stupid son of a bitch's wife is amazing, tenacious. I love how she handled Liz Warren. And Liz Warren says you can't have one guy go in a dark room and control speech. OK, well, before we bought it, there was four guys alone in a dark room controlling speech. She doesn't like this guy, OK. She wants her guys doing it.

And what's changed? I challenge you in any Democrat to tell me what specifically is changed in Twitter?

RIVERA: I'll tell you. I'll tell you.

WATTERS: Where is the hate speech?

RIVERA: It's clear. It's clear.

WATTERS: It's unleashed. Are people shooting -- what is it called -- ammonia into their veins because -- No, nothing is changed.

RIVERA: Isn't it clear that Twitter has become Republican, whereas it used to be Democrat?

PIRRO: Oh my gosh. They almost -- they can affect an election.

RIVERA: I'm not saying it's bad. I'm a Republican. I'm not saying it's bad.

WATTERS: I'm not missing a thing. I think it seems great. And Whoopi let the cat out of the bag. She goes, it's about control.

PAVLICH: Yes, look, Geraldo --

RIVERA: Well, the Hunter Biden saga does show what your failings were.

PAVLICH: Yes.

RIVERA: But that was woke in action in all its -- in all its malignant.

PIRRO: When the Democrats own Twitter.

PAVLICH: And it's so interesting -- it's so interesting that you brought up that you think it's gone from Democrats being in control to Republicans being in control.

RIVERA: Yes.

PAVLICH: When Elon Musk has simply implemented policies that allow everybody to be treated the same, equally under the law.

RIVERA: No, no, he's endorsed DeSantis.

PAVLICH: Who cares? The free speech thing isn't about being Republican or a Democrat.

WATTERS: He didn't elect Joe Biden like the last guys.

PAVLICH: It's about everybody having the same standard on the platform. This isn't about hate speech. This isn't about misinformation or disinformation. This is about Democrats and particularly the White House and the Elizabeth Warren's of the world losing control over their private tech company that they've been using to go around the First Amendment to attack and censor news agencies that they don't agree with, and topics that they don't like, whether it's the COVID Lab leak theory, Joe Biden's disastrous and catastrophic withdrawal from Afghanistan.

RIVERA: Hunter Biden.

PAVLICH: There's the Hunter Biden issue. I mean, the list goes on and on and on of all the things that they censored and the things that they promoted. And the White House has said, we've been flagging things on social media that we find problematic. Well, that's why Jen Psaki has to testify now in a court case, because it is not legal, it is unconstitutional for the government to use private entities to violate your constitutional rights. And that's exactly what they've been doing, and they want power and they want control, and that's why they're freaking out. It has nothing to do with hate speech.

RIVERA: But is it any better -- is it any better -- I put it to Greg -- that Republicans are doing it now instead of Democrats?

GREG GUTFELD, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: They aren't doing it.

PAVLICH: What are they doing? What are they doing?

PIRRO: We're not shutting them down.

GUTFELD: I think what makes this whole --

RIVERA: Inviting Kanye West back, President Trump, etcetera.

PAVLICH: Just because you want free speech, doesn't mean you endorse what people say.

GUTFELD: Well, that has nothing to do with Twitter. You know this is BS when they feared -- initially, the fear was that Musk wasn't going to censor the bad eggs, making Twitter a dangerous outfit. Then when he does ban the bad eggs, including people that were planning riots, they accuse him of being a sensor, of having his thumb on the scale.

And the best part about all of this, you can see it all playing out. And it's not on mainstream media. It's not in legacy media. It's happening on Twitter. He's the first transparent owner they've ever had. You can -- you can have a problem with him, Geraldo, and you can tweet at him. He will answer you.

And I think the real fear, again, what you said about Whoopi about control. The media has lost control of the narrative because Twitter was where they got their stories from. So, if you control Twitter, you control the media, the media control public opinion, the public opinion then voted. So, you had -- that was your way of manipulating the election. Now, that stuff is all gone. Everything is gone. Again, it goes to the fact that they didn't care about this.

RIVERA: So, what about content moderation, though? Should it happen?

GUTFELD: I think that's what he's doing.

PAVLICH: It is happening.

GUTFELD: In fact, I think he's using his same rules. He's using the same rules as it was before. That's why he just threw off people for inciting violence.

RIVERA: Up next, has the Biden economy turned us into a nation of cheapskates?

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

WATTERS: Has the terrible Biden economy turned Americans into cheapskates and ruined traditional dating forever? Wining, dining, and courtships are now a thing of the past, and being a cheap date is a good thing. Axios reporting the collision of a number of trends including skyrocketing prices, the pandemic's popularization of outdoor hangouts, and the rise of online dating is starting to kill the traditional dinner date.

Greg, how do you think you would handle dating during 2022?

GUTFELD: That is an excellent question. I've thought about that because, you know, if I were single, it would be crazy. You know, it would just be completely nuts and being polyamorous. I would just be all over the place.

PIRRO: (INAUDIBLE)

GUTFELD: No, but I got to state the obvious, OK? If you want to be considered a worthy romantic suitor for a woman, you're going to have to pay.

WATTERS: Yes.

GUTFELD: Because if you don't, instinctively and correctly, women will suss you out as someone who will be less than an adequate provider for a future family. This is courtesy of evolutionary psychology. It's nothing new. If you're not going to spring for dinner on your first date or a second date or third date, what will you be like a year from now? What will you be like when she needs you to be a husband or a father? You won't be there. So, that -- it is actually a really kind of a coaching clue for women to pick up on. You don't want a cheapskate.

WATTERS: And if you can't afford it, just put it on the plastic.

PAVLICH: Maybe, yes. I love how it says popular lies, outdoor spaces. It's like that was forced on everybody. I don't think that women want to be outside in New York City in the wintertime, eating -- even if they are getting paid -- you know, paid dinner on a real date. Like, take her inside. And not all girls are outdoor girls. They're not all into hiking or ice fishing like I am. You got to make sure you know who you're talking to.

WATTERS: Hey, babe, let's go ice fishing. We'll catch our dinner.

PAVLICH: Like, you just got to -- you just got to make sure.

RIVERA: I'll be the first Puerto Rican to ever do it.

WATTERS: And the last, Geraldo. So, this is tough. Any advice for young singles out there, Geraldo?

RIVERA: Yes. My main advice -- my dad own the diner. It went broke. But I've worked in lots of kitchens over my life. If you can't afford to 20 percent tip someone and you want to save your money by stripping the server, you can't afford the meal. You've got to downgrade your meal. Instead of, you know, three chicken things, you get two or whatever it is. That you can't stiff the help. You really can't.

WATTERS: What if you really are broke?

GUTFELD: Tell them you're an excellent chef.

WATTERS: That's what I was going to say. What happens if he invites you over to his apartment and he cooks you a romantic dinner? He lights some candles, opens a bottle of wine. Is that good enough for young Judge Jeanine?

PAVLICH: Is that first date?

PIRRO: OK.

GUTFELD: First date.

PIRRO: All right, first of all --

WATTERS: You're already at the apartment. Hey.

PIRRO: Yes, that's the point. As the only single person at this table, OK, I can tell you this.

WATTERS: Yes.

PIRRO: First of all, I don't go to any man's apartment, OK, for him to cook for me. Second of all, the chances of you taking me out on a walk --

RIVERA: Never? Never?

PIRRO: On a walk in (INAUDIBLE) or anything else are slim to none. Third, if you want to cheap out whether it's on me or on the tip, you're not my kind of guy. That's the end of it. And you know what? I'll cook for you when I think you're ready.

GUTFELD: And you can cook.

PIRRO: And I can cook.

WATTERS: Soak it in, America. "THE FASTEST" is next with a crazy new movie about a bear who did a lot of cocaine

GUTFELD: Bret Baier?

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

GUTFELD: Time for "THE FASTEST." First up, the trailer for Cocaine Bear is out. The movie about a real-life animal from the 80s who isn't Geraldo stumbles onto a duffel bag full of blow that had fallen out of a smuggler's plane.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: No, no, no, don't eat that. don't eat that. Let's see what kind of effect that has on an apex predator high on cocaine.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GUTFELD: Wow. Katie, you know what? That is a date movie if I ever saw one.

PAVLICH: Sure. Yes, it sounds like a great date movie. It's a real story.

GUTFELD: I love with animals in it.

PAVLICH: It's a real story which nuts. I felt bad for the bear though.

PIRRO: Yes.

PAVLICH: He didn't know what he was eating.

GUTFELD: You know what that --

WATTERS: I felt bad for the smuggler. Imagine losing a kilo out of the --

PAVLICH: Yes, that guy is dead. That guy is dead.

PIRRO: You feel bad for the smuggler? The guy is a criminal. I'm glad he lost it.

RIVERA: He died on his way down.

PAVLICH: He's dead though.

GUTFELD: Well, no. But the thing is, Jesse makes a surprisingly good point. How was he going to explain to the kingpin that the bear ate coke?

PIRRO: The dog ate -- yes, exactly.

WATTERS: The bear ate my coke.

GUTFELD: The bear ate my coke. That's never been said.

WATTERS: El Chapo is not buying that.

PIRRO: No, no.

GUTFELD: That's never been said. Geraldo, you know, I believe you dated a cocaine bear in the 70s.

RIVERA: Pablo Eskobear.

GUTFELD: Oh, there you go. Pablo Esko --

RIVERA: Not mine. Not mine. I read it somewhere. No. The story itself, it was too outrageous to be believed, but it's a true story. It happened in 1985. A real drug smuggler, he threw the duffel bags full of coke out of the plane. He set the plane on autopilot. It crashed in the mountains I think of North Carolina. He jumped out of the airplane. And he hit his head on the tail of the plane as he was jumping out and died. So, the bear was on his own to eat the coke.

GUTFELD: There you go, Judge.

PAVLICH: This wasn't a grizzly bear.

GUTFELD: Did you feel bad? Does this makes you feel bad?

PIRRO: Yes, I feel bad for the bear. I mean, you know, apparently, he's first seen -- medics approach the cabin where they hear a growling bear only to find a bear cowering in the corner of the back room. Is that what cocaine does to you?

GUTFELD: No, they thought -- they knew he was on cocaine because he wouldn't shut up about a screenplay.

PIRRO: Oh, that was it. It makes sense to me.

GUTFELD: Yes, yes, yes. All right, futuristic public toilets making their big debut in, of all places, San Francisco.

RIVERA: Of course.

GUTFELD: And only lasting three days before crapping out and having to be repaired. Which is a shame given the loo was called the future of public toilets. Jesse, you're an expert on public toilets.

WATTERS: I am because San Francisco spent \$2 million building a one-stall toilet. And it's not even going to be completed until 2028. And this one is broken --

RIVERA: Is that true?

GUTFELD: Yes.

WATTERS: -- after three hours.

GUTFELD: It's amazing. Why is everything in San Francisco, Judge, connected -- in San Francisco connected to bodily functions? It seems like every story is about that.

PIRRO: Well, because that's how Nancy Pelosi wants it. I mean, whether it's the tenderloin district or anything else, I mean, she's really into all that stuff. And she deserves everything she gets.

RIVERA: The tenderloin was named long before Nancy.

GUTFELD: Tenderloin --

PIRRO: Nancy Pelosi has been around for 80 years. It wasn't known as a drug den.

RIVERA: That's a very true thing.

GUTFELD: I went to the doctor for tenderloin. It was not good.

PIRRO: Yes.

GUTFELD: It's a lot of toxic powder.

PIRRO: But it wasn't a drug haven for 80 years.

RIVERA: It was --

PIRRO: Come on, Geraldo.

RIVERA: The thing about toilets is you got to -- you got to build them to handle poop not politics. You know, you can't have it --

GUTFELD: How do you tell the difference?

PIRRO: Yes, what is the difference?

RIVERA: One that works. I hate -- I go to the old my old hotels and they have electronic this and that and the other thing. I'm the like, switches and flushes.

PAVLICH: I think the basic toilet would be good. This is why this failed. This is perfect, OK. So, there's a guy named Bill Katz. He's the designer from San Francisco who designed this thing. He said, "With their modeled stainless steel surface, they will literally reflect our diverse city neighborhoods and their deep-rooted history creating sculptural street furniture."

GUTFELD: Wow.

PIRRO: That's so nice.

PAVLICH: So, there you go. It explains everything.

GUTFELD: Everybody poops.

PIRRO: Yes. Shouldn't that unite us? Why separate us? Oh, I'm wiped. All right, "ONE MORE THING" is up next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

PIRRO: It's time now for "ONE MORE THING." Greg, hit it.

GUTFELD: Oh, we got -- tonight, it's like a retro Red Eye classic. It's all brand new. Patty and Browne, Rob Long, Joe DeVito, Kat Timpf. That's tonight. Hey, let's do this. Gus Gutfeld's first fight. So, you know, I got a call from Gus' school. the principal called, not pleased. Apparently, he's been starting some fights in school. Take a look at this one. Take a look at this one.

PIRRO: Oh, that's amazing.

PAVLICH: Go, Gus! Go, Gus!

PIRRO: Is that -- that's a Malinois.

GUTFELD: Yes.

WATTERS: Look at the size of the dog.

GUTFELD: And he -- and the dog -- and he ended up leaving because he couldn't handle that little brat. He's at obedience school right now in New Jersey where he belongs.

PIRRO: Oh, that's adorable.

RIVERA: He's a perfect dog for Gutfeld.

PIRRO: Adorable. Jesse?

WATTERS: I met that guy Rob at a spa in the relaxation room.

PAVLICH: Oh, Lord.

WATTERS: Two men in robes in Colorado. That's how I met that dude. He was like, you know Gutfeld? I was like, yes, who are you? Stop looking at my robe?

PIRRO: OK.

WATTERS: If you guys are friends with some Fox News fans, you are in for a treat. With every purchase of \$50 or more, in partnership with Blankets of Hope, you get free stuff from the Fox News Shop. You got hats. You got beanies. You got ugly sweater. No, this isn't an ugly sweater.

PIRRO: That's a nice sweater.

PAVLICH: I like that.

WATTERS: It's a nice sweater.

GUTFELD: Let me see that sweater, Jesse. Thanks.

WATTERS: I don't want it. And yes, this awesome scarf.

GUTFELD: You don't want this?

WATTERS: No, you can take it.

GUTFELD: Oh, damn right I'm taking it. No, it's too big.

WATTERS: And so, go there right now.

RIVERA: Don't wear that in the building.

PAVLICH: I'll take it. I want it.

WATTERS: Visit shop.fox.com. And tonight, "JESSE WATTERS PRIMETIME," we have Kellyanne Conway, Tulsi Gabbard, and Rand Paul.

GUTFELD: I'm giving this to my brother-in-law.

PIRRO: OK. All right, now, as you all know, Stella rocks dyed fur for special occasions. She always looks fabulous. There she is one Easter. Well, I think we have more pictures of Stella dyed. Hello. Hello. Hello. There she is in pink gears. All right, well, just like always, China came out with their own knockoff. Check out this Chinese dog trying to pull off the dyed fur look. Not cute. It turns out the dog's owner pick bright green to easily keep track of his pooch. He can use a few tips from my Stella.

All right, Geraldo.

WATTERS: That was rough.

RIVERA: Well, I visited with my oldest friend on Earth, Vic Furio. We went to -- we went to work on the highway department in Santa Babylon. Oh, at first I was in California with my family. That's Ryan, my nephew-in-law. That's Vincent the little one, my son Gabriel, my son Cruz, Vincent, Desmond. We had a wonderful time in the West Coast. Deb the fabulous hostess. That Deb and left, my daughter-in-law, my son Cruz.

And then here's Vic, my dear friend with Wilma his wife. We went out to the -- that's the Snake River in southeast Idaho where Evel Knievel -- well, further down river, attempted to jump it. So, it was a wonderful time going to God's country there. There's the Snake River. Vic is an excellent off- road. And it's snowing. It was a winter wonderful winter wonderland. I love it. We had a great time.

PIRRO: OK, Katie.

PAVLICH: All right, so, most 18-year-olds live life on their Instagram feed and posts. But this one wants to serve his hometown. Jaylen Smith is running to be the next mayor of Earle, Arkansas. He is recent high school grads, made it through his local primary runoff, and says he's running to improve safety and transportation. So, next Tuesday is the big night for him. Congrats to Jaylen.

PIRRO: All right, good for him. That's it for us. "SPECIAL REPORT" is up next. Hey, Bret!

END

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BY Martha MacCallum, Rich Edson, Sandra Smith, Charlie Gasparino, Alex Hogan, Christina Coleman, Brian Kilmeade, Hillary Vaughn, Chad Pergram, Molly Line

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SN Fox News Channel: The Story with Martha MacCallum

SC HUNDD

LA English

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LP

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MARTHA MACCALLUM, FOX NEWS ANCHOR: Good afternoon, everybody. I'm Martha MacCallum at Fox News headquarters in New York. Breaking right now on THE STORY, in moments, I will speak with the father of one of the four students who were viciously slain in their off-campus house at the University of Idaho as we get new developments in that case today. We'll get to that in just a moment.

TD

But first Congress in the middle of hearing, the big crypto collapse and the man behind it, this mysterious Sam Bankman Fried, right. As Congress, many of them took donations from this young man now face the first questions and they're asking questions as well, about what kind of regulation maybe should have been in place in this wild west crypto market. The first hearing kicks off on Capitol Hill and the former FTX CEO, Sam Bankman Fried, not there, he's in the Bahamas, but he is reaching out and telling his story.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SAM BANKMAN-FRIED, FORMER FTX CEO: Look, I screwed up like -- I was CEO. We messed up. I did not know that there's any improper use of customer funds. If I had been spending an hour a day thinking about risk management on FTX, I don't think that would have happened. I should have been on top of this. And I feel really, really bad and regretful that I wasn't and then a lot of people got hurt -- and that that's on me.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: That is on me. Wow. This is pretty remarkable. We do these interviews from that penthouse that you see in this video in the Bahamas. He says that he thinks that customers of the U.S. branch of FTX, some of them could get their money back. He's been scrambling to say that he's going to be able to do that. We'll see where that goes. Sandra Smith and Fox Business Senior Correspondent Charlie Gasparino, both on top of this story from the very beginning. We're going to get to them in just a moment.

But first the background here today on the new developments from Senior National Correspondent Rich Edson in, on Capitol Hill. Hi, Rich.

RICH EDSON, FOX NEWS SENIOR NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT: Hey, good afternoon, Martha. Well, Congress is getting involved as it typically tends to do in these situations here. The first hearing specifically on the FTX collapse earlier this afternoon by the Senate Agricultural Committee. It has jurisdiction over the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and that is a group that has been looking into this whole thing for a while here. The chairman of the CFTC was up here testifying earlier today, Rostin Behnam, he testified to

senators that it's going to take months to understand the scope of this FTX failure. He says, his agency needs more authority to regulate all of this business.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ROSTIN BENHAM, COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION: We had no basis or reason to sort of pierce through that entity and start phishing or asking questions about affiliate entities or non-CFTC registered entities.

EDSON (voiceover): Benham also says his agency did not receive any whistleblower tips about problems at FTX. Former FTX CEO Sam Bankman-Fried's accused of transferring funds from FTX to another firm to finance risky bets. Those went bad, the whole operation collapsed. Bankman-Fried says he never tried to commit fraud. FTX is in bankruptcy, has \$8 billion in shortfalls. And it says it may owe more money to more than a million creditors from major investment firms to Americans who say they invested their entire life savings.

Bankman-Fried freed faces investigations from the FCC and the Justice Department. He says, he has less than \$100,000 now and access to only one credit card. Bankman-Fried was the second highest donor to Democrats during the most recent midterm cycle. He now claims he quietly gave the same amount of money or about that to Republicans.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

EDSON: The chairman of the CFTC says that he met with Bankman-Fried 10 times over the last 14 months. Consumer groups say that was an effort to try to weaken any regulation that was working its way through the CFTC. Now, it'll be up to Congress to figure out how to sort this mess out and whether there will be more regulation. How much more of it on the crypto markets going forward. Back to you, Martha.

MACCALLUM: Yes, good luck. Thank you very much, Rich Edson. So, joining me now: "AMERICA REPORTS" Co-Anchor, Sandra Smith; and Fox Business Senior Correspondent Charlie Gasparino. You guys have been all over this story. I know you just interviewed one of the people who lost \$2 million in this debacle. And you sound skeptical, both of you, about what Congress is going to be able to do at this point.

SANDRA SMITH, FOX NEWS ANCHOR: Well, his question was -- his questions why was he delivering that Q&A with the New York Times from the comfort of his home in the Bahamas and not from a jail cell? I mean, if he is actually guilty of what is alleged against him, this is one of the biggest financial scams that we've ever seen --

CHARLIE GASPARINO, FOX BUSINESS SENIOR CORRESPONDENT: You do have, you do have to charge him first. I mean, I think one thing I will say is that I hope this whole debate does not devolve into, oh, should we add regulation, where was the regulators. This is theft, theoretically. This is possibly, allegedly theft. I mean, this -- theft has been illegal since I don't know the beginning of time. Common law. Goes way back. You can't take something that's not yours, and do something with it and lose it.

If you do that, you've stolen something. And I think that's where, I mean -- Andrew Ross Sorkin is a friend of mine, I thought he did a decent job. But that's where I don't think you should have stepped in at some point when Sam Bankman-Fried said there was no controls. And yes, money was taken. Sam, isn't that theft? You can't take that with -- that, which does not belong to you and gamble with it.

MACCALLUM: Yes, you know what strikes me. So, you thought this guy, you know, who has said, he didn't want to cut his hair, because he thought it was sort of part of the whole persona. Everyone thinks this MIT kid is so super smart, and he must know something we don't understand. And you know, he's going to be the future of making all of this money. And Sandra, you know, at the very least, you know, with regard to why he's able to freely have these conversations at this point, what happened to the extradition that we heard was underway?

SMITH: Fair enough. Fair enough. I think what's going to be the interesting next step in all of this is going to be members of Congress who are going to say: we can't let this happen again. They're going to try to step in and regulate -- have you seen how they've tried to regulate the financial markets when something happens without a lot of knowledge and ask any member of Congress to explain cryptocurrency, crypto-markets to you?

GASPARINO: Yes.

SMITH: Most people have a hard time, let alone members of Congress.

GASPARINO: Democrats would love this to go. Let's, let's go regulatory. Let's go this. Again, there is a potential crime here. He actually said, yesterday, to Sorkin that he didn't have any of these controls that,

you know, we didn't have risk control of this, we needed better conflict of interest risk control, or we didn't have any. If you read the statement, he almost said he had no risk controls. Now, think about that. That's like saying, you know, you're a doctor, you're performing heart surgery, but you didn't go to med school.

MACCALLUM: Yes.

GASPARINO: If you're a financial firm --

MACCALLUM: Yes, I didn't mean to hurt anybody. I mean, that is not, that, that is not an excuse.

GASPARINO: If you don't -- if you started a securities firm, and you don't, you got to have a risk, risk controls. It's like having a TV network without the cameras.

MACCALLUM: Sandra, people invested their money in this, you know. There is a bit of buyer beware here as well, is there not? Of course.

SMITH: Instrument, there's risk. That being said, there was a lot of people that made this a bigger financial scam, that it had to be by turning a blind eye. And by that I'm not just saying, you know, members of Congress. There was a lot of people who were identifying this man as a fraud. Terry Duffy.

GASPARINO: Not a lot, a few.

SMITH: Terry Duffy, a head of the largest derivatives exchange in the world, called him a fraud to his face, warned members of Congress who pushed back including Ro Khanna of California, challenged him on that.

MACCALLUM: And many of these members, we should point out, were receiving donations. He was the second largest donor to Democrat candidates.

SMITH: \$40 million.

MACCALLUM: He also gave money to Republican candidates as well. And I, and we've seen this play before, right? So, all of a sudden Congress goes, whoa, you know, we're going to regulate you were going to come down on you and sort of keep your attention over here, and not to the fact that we took money from this guy.

GASPARINO: It's not even that. I mean, let's -- there's a potential crime here. The U.S. Attorney's should be --

MACCALLUM: So, extradite him. Do you know the answer that? Why hasn't he been extradited?

GASPARINO: They're not telling me. I've been asking.

MACCALLUM: When you guys find out, let me know. Great to see you both.

SMITH: Thank you, Martha.

MACCALLUM: Thank you so much. So, coming up, we are going to speak with the father of one of the murdered University of Idaho students, Kaylee Goncalvez. He told Fox Digital that he takes comfort in knowing that his daughter died alongside her best friend, Maddie Mugen, that they were even in the same bed when this murder happened. They've been best friends for more than a decade. I will speak with him in a moment live.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

STEVE GONCALVES, FATHER OF VICTIM KAYLEE GONCALVES: And it's, it's a shame and it hurts. But the beauty of the two always being together something that will, will it conference it lets us know that they were with their, their best friends in the whole world. It's like a book.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: The man on the left-hand side of your screen was reportedly shot in the head and killed by Iranian security forces because he was celebrating Iran's loss to the United States at the World Cup, that according to a human rights group. He was also apparently a friend of one of the Iranian soccer players, who is now speaking out. Correspondent Alex Hogan reporting live from the World Cup in Doha. Hello, Alex.

ALEX HOGAN, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Hi, Martha. Another deadly crackdown on demonstrators. The group, Iran Human Rights says as many as 440 people have been killed by security

forces in these months of protests. And now, after the one-zero us win over Iran, people in Iran took to the streets celebrating their loss as a moment of defiance against the regime. An activists say that security forces in Northern Iran, at one of those protests killed this man. 27-year-old, Mehran Samak.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HOGAN (voiceover): Security reportedly shooting him in the head for honking his horn in celebration of the U.S. win. Samak was a friend of Iranian soccer player, Saeed Ezatolahi. This midfielder pictured in this photo from Tuesday's game. Ezatolahi quickly responding posting online: "After last night's bitter loss, the news of your passing set fire to my heart. Someday, masks will fall, the truth will be laid bare."

The team traveled back to Iran late last night after a time here in Qatar of political turmoil. Many of them fell to the ground after the loss on game three, comforted by their U.S. counterparts. And their families had reportedly been threatened if the players refused to sing the national anthem as they had done in Game One.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HOGAN: Now, we have seen activism here at the World Cup. But many of the protesters who held on to signs those signs have been removed by security forces at the stadiums. And police even stopped one man who was wearing a t-shirt that supported women's rights. One that has now been associated with this movement and stopped that man after the latest match. Martha.

MACCALLUM: Alex, thank you very much. Alex Hogan, reporting from Doha.

So, breaking late today, Moscow, Idaho police clearing up some confusion, saying that they still believe that the attack against these students was "targeted", though they have not concluded if the target was the residents or specific targets individuals within that residence.

So, you can understand why this is very difficult and frustrating for the families of these beautiful four students.

The father of one of them. Kaylee Goncalvez will join me in just a moment after this.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: A new twist in the Idaho quadruple murder mystery. Moscow police clarifying today, again, that they do still think that this was a targeted attack. But they haven't concluded whether the killer was after these students or this residents. Very confusing.

The father of Kaylee Goncalvez is going to speak with us in just a moment.

But first, we want to go to our reporter on the ground there. Christina Coleman, who has been following this every day, and she joins us now. Hi, Christina.

CHRISTINA COLEMAN, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Hi, Martha. It's been confusing indeed. I just talked to some students and a resident from around here and they tell me that they're just trying to wrap their head around all of this, and they hope that a killer is caught soon for this brutal crime. This is what the police said in their new statement today.

Our clarification last night directly address comments made by Latah County Prosecutor Thompson, who said the suspect or suspects specifically looked at this residence, and that one or more of the occupants were undoubtedly targeted. We remain consistent in our belief that this was indeed a targeted attack, but have not concluded if the target was the residence or its occupants."

Also, there is some progress in this case. Idaho state police say investigators are starting to receive forensic testing results from a crime lab.

Meantime, this community continues to grieve. Parents of three of the victims attended a candlelight vigil last night at the university in honor of the slain students, paying tribute to their short lives and the legacy they left behind.

Police have confirmed two of the victims were found on the second floor and that two other victims were found on the third floor of that three storey off campus home on November 13.

And although police have not confirmed exactly where the victims were found in the rooms, Kaylee's father gave some insight into this last night.

He talked at that vigil very touching comments. It was -- it was very nice to hear his remarks. He explained how his daughter was best friends with Madison Mogen up until the very end.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

STEVE GONCALVES, FATHER OF VICTIM KAYLEE GONCALVES: Then they started looking at colleges, and they came here together. They eventually get into the same apartment together. And in the end, that they died together in the same room, in the same bed. And it's a shame and it hurts, but the beauty of the two always being together something that will -- it comforts us.

COLEMAN: Just absolutely heartbreaking. And in an exclusive interview with Fox News yesterday, the father of Madison Mogen urge anyone who could help with this investigation to please come forward.

BENJAMIN MOGEN, FATHER OF VICTIM, MADISON MOGEN: Every time I wake up, I really remember what's going on. And it's like Madison, I don't know how you ever get used to this. It's never been --

COLEMAN: Life will never --

MOGEN: Go away.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

COLEMAN: And again, so many unanswered questions as officers and local law enforcement work to solve this crime, and figure out who was behind this brutal and deadly attack. Martha.

MACCALLUM: Thank you, Christina.

With that, we bring in Steve Goncalvez, who is the father of Kaylee. And he joins me now. Steve, first of all, our condolences to you and your family. We're so, so sorry for your loss, sir.

We have kids, you know, similar ages, and I can't imagine what you're going through. So, I, I thank you for being here. And as I mentioned to you earlier, our goal in talking to you is to keep this story out there, to show the tip line, which we're going to put up on the screen in just a moment.

But I want to get your reaction to this confusion of it. If targeted, not targeted, maybe the people in the house, maybe it was the residence, what can you tell us about that?

GONCALVEZ: I don't like it one bit. I know these statements take like hours in multiple individuals to review. It's not like this was something set on the side of the street within the first five hours of the case.

That -- and these guys are professionals, they sat in a room and this is what they came out with. And they keep coming out with statements that create more questions in the answer. And then, that creates a pressure. And that's why I'm feeling like there's so many people coming and looking for answers. And I'm one of them.

MACCALLUM: One of the things that you said last night about the two of them having fallen asleep in the same bed. That was new information. Is that the case that they were actually in the same bed?

GONCALVEZ: To me, it wasn't knew. The corner and shared a bunch of information about there, there was some photos if you knew the house design, you would have seen that there was a picture of Kaylee's bed, and it was -- it was made. There was nothing in there.

So, it was kind of a process of elimination if you'd been in the home of the new -- the inside information like I knew that was my daughter's room.

So, to me it had been out, but I'm sure they're not happy with me saying that. I didn't mean to, to say something that was supposed to be on the wraps.

(CROSSTALK)

MACCALLUM: Yes, of course not. Of course not.

GONCALVEZ: But I told them, you got to work with me, you got to tell me what to say, and what not to say. And I'll listen. But sometimes they're scared to give me those advices. And I understand.

MACCALLUM: Let me ask you because of something that you said, when you spoke with Lawrence Jones. You know, do you believe that -- Do you believe that people on this campus have know something? That there -- the rest of us don't know?

Do you think that there was a stalker involved in this case?

GONCALVEZ: I don't -- I don't think it matters what I particularly feel, I just want them to follow the evidence. I think even people who think they don't have enough information, I know people have been scared to share stuff because of there may be alcohol or drugs or something in the background.

I've tried to work with them to to let everybody know that that's not what they're working on. But I've definitely heard from people that they're scared to submit stuff.

It could be a party, it could be anything around that neighborhood within that time that could help us. And I think the community's going to solve this case, just as much as those officers in that room.

MACCALLUM: You said something about, you know, someone's car could be -- you know, in a selfie, or a video of a person who said that they had an alibi, but the car isn't where it was supposed to be.

Tell me about that. What you're thinking when you say that, sir.

GONCALVEZ: I have an I.T. background. I know, Tesla's and some other vehicles have cameras that you don't even have to turn on and it's still recording. And there's some chips in there that you can pull data off. I know, that's the way the Wi-Fi is worked.

So, this individual could have came in to these homes, and partied, and done things, and that data can be captured.

I want this guy to be fair, I want him to be scared. I don't want him to be confident. I want him to be sick of seeing my face. And I'm not going nowhere until this guy's off the streets. And the worst thing I want is another family to go through this.

Kaylee's mom said something about being fearful that he is around. That he is watching all of this. That he could even show up at a funeral service for your daughter or one of these children.

GONCALVEZ: It's pretty much a fact. He -- who does something like this and doesn't tune into the media. Who wouldn't? It's in -- it's in his 100 percent selfish interest.

So, yes, he is. And we wouldn't want to do some kind of celebration and exclude anyone. So, yes, he could easily be there. And that's a sick kind of twisted person that would do this kind of crime.

MACCALLUM: You know, when you talked about getting into the phone, you said we have family passwords. And you know, we were able to get in there.

Is there anything that you can share with us about what you learned there or people she was communicating with? We know there was a back and forth between she and her on-and-off boyfriend through the course of the night.

GONCALVEZ: There was a little -- there was some information, we were able to get that to the police officers. I think it definitely helped them. I know, the behavior footprint afterwards.

It did definitely get some more things in the works. But I'm a historical fact person, I can help them know, my daughter's and Maddie from past, but going forward, I'm going to be less and less relevant.

MACCALLUM: Do you believe that your daughter was the target? Or do you have any reason to think that it was -- that she was over someone else or that someone else was?

GONCALVEZ: I do have some inkling that there was some behavior difference. I call him a footprint. When you commit a crime you do -- you do different behaviors. I've asked permission to give any of -- and any of that out? And they told me no, it would not be beneficial.

So, I've held back on that. And I tried to keep my word.

MACCALLUM: I'm sorry, behavior of her or someone she knew?

GONCALVEZ: Behavior of the victims.

MACCALLUM: OK. All right, Steve, I appreciate you sharing this with us. And as I said, we're going to put the tipline. The tipline is up right now. It's 2008-883-7180.

And as you have said, none of these young people should fear that if they were drinking that night or involved in what most of us would consider pretty typical college behavior, that they are going to become a -- that, that's can be a problem for them.

They need to come forward with their videos, whatever's on their phone, whatever they might have picked up on, in order to continue to work to get a break in this case, which is what we all want. We all want some justice. We want to find out who did this, and that you can all find some sort of eventual peace in this.

And, Steve, we're praying for all of you and we thank you very much for being here today, sir.

GONCALVEZ: Thank you.

MACCALLUM: So, with that, let me bring in our former FBI investigator Bill Daly. Bill, you were listening to our conversation with Mr. Goncalvez. What do you take away from it?

BILL DALY, FORMER INVESTIGATOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION: Well, besides being just a heart wrenching, being a parent, and you can imagine what this must be like for him and his family going through this.

But let me tell you is that he revealed a couple of pieces of information here, which were very helpful was that about behaviors and what may have happened afterwards?

And I think those are the key things. And I think when you start looking at this investigation, information that people will come up with after the fact.

Seeing somebody acted a little bit differently, maybe the movement of a vehicle or somebody didn't show up for a job, or they didn't show up for a class. Whatever happened to be, could be indicators.

You know, a lot of crimes are certainly solved when people think something is out of sorts after the fact, where somebody is different than they were before. And so I think in this case, apart from the forensics that they're going through, which is slowly we understand coming back to the police, it may very well be people from the area seeing, hearing something not too sure why is somebody out there cleaning the car so much, why are they doing this, why they didn't show up. Those are the things that I think may start to bring and this (inaudible) together.

MACCALLUM: Bill, thank you very much. Bill Daly and I had a longer conversation about this case earlier today, which will be on my podcast, "The Untold Story." It's available now at FoxNewsPodcast.com. So if you want to hear more about this case, and the way that the FBI approaches a case like this, Bill and I talked about that earlier today. Thanks, Bill. Good to see you.

So Fox also digging into this new bombshell report that details how TikTok accounts run by the government and Communist China are being used as propaganda to spread messages about US politics and different candidates in this country. Brian Kilmeade and a story that you will hear right here after this.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: China's propaganda are amusing TikTok to go after American politicians ahead of the US midterms last month, without making it clear that they were connected to any of these videos. That's according to a new report coming from Forbes today, which reports that the accounts mostly criticized Republicans for the most part and favored Democrats. Fox and Friends co-host Brian Kilmeade is here.

BRIAN KILMEADE, FOX NEWS HOST: Shocking.

MACCALLUM: Shocking, right? But first to business correspondent Hillary Vaughn, who gives us the background here from Capitol Hill. Hi, Hillary.

HILLARY VAUGHN, FOX NEWS BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT: Hi, Martha. Well, the Forbes reports that these TikTok accounts are run by the propaganda arm Chinese state media in China. And they have garnered millions of followers, and tens of millions of views. So China is getting what they want, a captive audience to push videos that attack US politicians to drive divisiveness without clearly disclosing that the people pushing the videos are affiliated with the Chinese government.

TikTok says they are working on a policy that would fix this problem. A TikTok spokesperson telling us this, "We plan to introduce our state- controlled media policy and corresponding labels globally next year as part of our continued focus on media literacy. As we previously confirmed, the global rollout will include China's state media."

But TikTok is not the only one in the hot seat over coziness with China, Apple CEO Tim Cook on Capitol Hill today meeting with lawmakers, many who have voiced their concerns about the ongoing zero COVID protests in the country, and reports that Apple coordinated with the Chinese government to limit AirDrop access, a key tool for protesters. So we tried to get some answers.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

VAUGHN: Do you support the Chinese people's right to protest? Do you regret restricting AirDrop access that protesters used to evade surveillance from the Chinese government? Do you think it's problematic to do business with the Communist Chinese party when they suppress human rights?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

VAUGHN: So no answers from Tim Cook today, Martha, but Congressman Darrell Issa did wrap up his meeting with Tim Cook. He told us afterwards that the meeting was a little tense. But he also said that Tim Cook made him a promise that he would remain politically neutral when it comes to US politics and essentially remain Switzerland, Martha?

MACCALLUM: Well, good try, Hillary, trying to get an answer out of him. Well done. Fox and Friends co-host Brian Kilmeade is here. He's also the host of "One Nation" on Saturday night and the "Brian Kilmeade Show" on Fox News Radio and a new special, "The President and the Freedom Fighter Live" this Friday 8:30 PM on Fox Nation and available On Demand after that. He's a busy guy so we're glad that you stopped by and good to see you today.

Yesterday, I went back and forth with John Kirby about this issue of why they are keeping an eye on Twitter.

KILMEADE: Right.

MACCALLUM: But they won't question Apple, which is a publicly-traded company, huge publicly-traded company about why they would be sort of allowing the Chinese government to dictate to them how they can control people's phones in China.

KILMEADE: Yes. It was kind of interesting, he found out they did reduce a privacy setting that you and I have here in this country from 2017. They improved it again in 2019. Neither those improvements came to the Chinese people, let alone that what they just done with the AirDrop, you have 10 minutes to drop something without -- to everyone, and then after that 10 minutes, you got to go to only go to your contacts, which for protesters they need to communicate in a way that's not going to get them literally arrested or killed. So it's vital for them to do it. So they adapted to what the Chinese asked.

I didn't notice this, Apple might be having in these conversations behind closed doors letting it be known. They are reducing, thanks to our great brain room, their footprint in China. It was at 47% of their entire supply chain was in China prior to the pandemic in 2019. It's now down to 36%. It wouldn't do them any good to say, hey, we'll move it out because that will create more pressure on the 10,000 people that work there. That was as high as 12,000.

But I think these companies are beginning to realize as Tim Cook just tried to avoid. They want to avoid that at all costs. He looks terrible, right? They're avoiding questions. Why would the CEO of the of the maybe the number one company in America refuse to answer simple questions for the number one network in America? That's because he does have good answers. And I'm sure he wants to end that and that's one way to do it because right now they got him by the short hairs

MACCALLUM: Yes. Here's my exchange with John Kirby about whether or not the White House or the FBI or anyone had conversations with Twitter about sitting on the Hunter Biden story. Let's watch this and get a quick thought on the other side of it.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: -- have any communications between the government and Twitter to say put a handle on this story and it was suppressed. We know that Facebook said that there was interaction between some government officials and them about being very cautious about this Hunter Biden story right before the election.

JOHN KIRBY, COORDINATOR FOR STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS, NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL: I'm certainly not aware of any conversations or dialogue in that respect, Martha, no.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: So Elon Musk says he's going to reveal what was going on behind the scenes at Twitter, when they decided to kibosh the Hunter Biden story right before the election.

KILMEADE: It's almost like they found the black book. I have the black book and no matter it is I'm going to open it. So it seems like everyone's scrambling to say what's in the black book. Washington Post and New York Times about a year ago or eight months ago said, hey, the more I think about it, that laptop is real. We probably should have published it.

CBS last week said we did a forensic study. It's actually valid now adequate. And now all of a sudden yesterday, we got -- we find out more from the guy who's ahead of controls of Twitter that you know what, we probably shouldn't have done that. It's too late.

MACCALLUM: Yes. I would just remind everyone that Hunter Biden -- no one in the Biden organization ever said it. It's not his laptop.

KILMEADE: Right.

MACCALLUM: Not one of them. I mean, if it wasn't your laptop, you would have said that you'd be screaming that from the mountain top.

KILMEADE: He did a book tour and said I don't know if the laptop is mine.

MACCALLUM: He said it could be. Brian, thank you.

KILMEADE: How does he get away with this?

MACCALLUM: Thank you. I don't know. Thank you, Brian. All right.

Coming up, a former political prisoner of China who protested at Tiananmen Square 33 years ago on the new cries for freedom and the White House's response to this. What does the White House -- what do you say to Apple about helping the Chinese government to keep their people under control?

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: A rare and courageous show of defiance against the Chinese government is apparently getting action. More cities now easing some of the COVID restrictions after brave citizens took to the streets to protest the zero COVID lockdowns in China, some even daring to demand that President Xi Jinping step down.

Joining me now, Dr. Jianli Yang, an activist during the Tiananmen Square protests and former political prisoner in China. He is the founder and president of Citizen Power Initiatives for China. Sir, great to have you with us. Thank you very much for being here today.

You wrote a piece in the Washington Post about how stunning and brave these protests in China have been.

JIANLI YANG, FOUNDER/PRESIDENT, CITIZEN POWER INITIATIVES FOR CHINA: Hi. Thank you, Martha. As someone who participates in the Tiananmen protests in 1989, I cannot help fading the ankles of that moment in the events taking place in China. So I think the current demonstrations are very, very significant because they are their first nationwide expressions of this content that the political demands. China has seen since the Tiananmen protests in 1989.

MACCALLUM: There were many people killed, massacred after those protests. What do you think is happening in China now because what we're being told is that they are curving some of these very stringent lockdown policies.

YANG: Yes. We have seen their first direct result of these demonstrations. Chinese government has agreed to lift some restrictions, the so called zero COVID policies, which was the very reason for people to take to the streets and protest. But I want to remind the world that we cannot underestimate the determination of a Xi Jinping and the CCP regime to restore fear. So they need a fear to control.

And these demonstrations, these protests have reduced the fear the people have over CCP and the regime. So Xi Jinping will do everything in his power to reignite fear while loosening some restrictions, the lockdowns for responding to the pandemic. I think you met well remember a scene in the movie the "Schindler's List," where imprisoned Jewish and engineer was bold enough to make suggestions, which is rife suggestions to the German officer, and a German so reacted by shooting him on the spot but ordered that his suggestions be followed. That is exactly what Xi Jinping is doing.

MACCALLUM: We're looking at a picture of a man who is having his head held against the street and a hand over his mouth. And I think that photo says a lot. Jianli, thank you very much, Jianli Yang. I hope we'll speak to you again soon, sir. Thank you so much.

YANG: Thank you.

MACCALLUM: Thank you, sir. So happening now, the Senate has enough votes to prevent a possible railroad strike but that vote is still going on. Senior congressional correspondent Chad Pergram joins us live from Capitol Hill. Chad, what's the latest here?

CHAD PERGRAM, FOX NEWS SENIOR CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENT: Martha, as you say, this vote is still open right now. They set up an agreement earlier this afternoon to submit this to a 60 vote threshold. They needed 60 votes to pass this to intervene and avoid a strike. This is basically the same bill that the House of Representatives approved yesterday. This vote right now, they have 74 yays, only 13 nays.

There were two efforts earlier in the afternoon, where the Senate tried to do two things. There was an amendment by Dan Sullivan, he's a Republican of Alaska, to impose a two-month cooling off period. In other words, send the labor unions and the railroads back to the bargaining table for 60 days there. That needed 60 yays but that was rejected 69 to 26, only 26 yays there.

And then there was an amendment from Bernie Sanders, the Independent senator from Vermont, this is what everybody was talking about trying to get seven days of paid medical leave for the railroad workers that also needed 60 yays. The vote there was 52 to 43, so eight vote shy.

So when they close this vote, the House and Senate will be in an alignment, and they will have averted a strike which was supposed to start next week. But shippers were going to stop shipping certain products over the weekend that's why the Senate needed to act today. Martha?

MACCALLUM: Chad, thank you very much. I know you'll keep an eye on it for us. Thank you, sir.

So the Prince and Princess of Wales continuing their first visit to the United States since 2014, the royal couple back in the States for Prince William's Earthshot Prize awards, which is an environmental push that is inspired by JFK's moonshot. So that is why they are in Boston for the next couple of days.

And the visit coincides, strangely enough, with the release of a bombshell trailer from Prince Harry and Meghan Markle's new documentary. We'll play it for you in a moment as royal expert Neil Sean stands by. But first, correspondent Molly Line covering the Wales visit to Boston live. Hi, Molly.

MOLLY LINE, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Hello, Martha. Well, you said it. This is day two of the royal visit here to the Boston Area, and the Prince and Princess of Wales braved some chilly weather but a very warm reception all across this area, William and Kate meeting young Henry Dynov-Teixeira. This was in Somerville this morning, fully dressed as a royal guard. This young boy handed off a bouquet of flowers to Princess Kate and then gave a sharp salute.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HENRY DYN OV-TEIXEIRA, YOUNG FAN: I asked them where Prince George was and they answered and said that he was at school.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

LINE: A charming exchange following the royal highnesses' for stop at a green tech collaborative called Greentown Labs where startups and innovators are working to "design a more sustainable world." They traveled onward to a nonprofit called ROCA, which works with at risk youth, to disrupt the cycles of violence and took a few moments there to mingle with some enthusiastic royal watchers waiting outside shaking hands with the Prince of Wales being given a book called "A Good Thing Happened Today."

The prince and princess went on in the afternoon to learn a little bit about the impact of rising tides on coastal cities, of course, that includes Boston. And tomorrow, they're expected to spend a few minutes with President Biden before as you mentioned, the big award the Earthshot Prize, to be presented later on that night. Martha?

MACCALLUM: Such cute exchange with that little boy. Thank you very much, Molly, Molly line. Harry and Meghan, though not letting this sort of take all the attention in this moment. They're about to unveil their Netflix series. Here's the trailer.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Why did you want to make this documentary?

PRINCE HARRY, DUKE OF SUSSEX: No one sees what's happening behind closed doors. I'll do everything I could to protect my family.

MEGHAN MARKLE, DUCHESS OF SUSSEX: When the stakes are this high, doesn't it make more sense to hear our story from us?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: OK. Let's bring in Neil Sean, UK royal reporter and media correspondent who's covered the royal family for more than 20 years. Neil, welcome. Good to have you here.

I don't know. I mean, do people -- what does she mean when the stakes are this high? What are we -- I mean, what is this about? Do people really care?

NEIL SEAN, UK ROYAL REPORTER: Martha, lovely to see you as ever. It makes the Kardashians look like Oscar winning performances, doesn't it? You know, what we can tell you first and exclusive here on your show is there is a problem with this trailer already. And this all centers upon -- if you see the trailer again, you'll see -- there's a very quick picture of Catherine and William, and now they're not quite sure exactly the ownership copyright of that particular picture, whether it should have been included or not.

Now, you know, it's a very strange thing because you've spent all of this time, all of this effort, and then suddenly there's a bit of a glitch. And as you rightly pointed out, how kind of them to drop it on such a pivotal visit to the wonderful place of Boston by the Prince and Princess of Wales.

People over here, let me tell you, Martha, are just perplexed. You've gone from being in the world's most prestigious family, and you've dropped yourself into the lower levels of reality TV. Are we that intrigued about their story, have we not seen it all before? A lot of people believe given how long it's taken to get to this point, is going to be a bit of a yawn fest. And Netflix could be the counting the cost, not a profit but of doom.

MACCALLUM: Yes. They spent a lot of money, millions of dollars, so they need to ramp this up. And there's no coincidence here that this is dropping on the day that this huge trip that the Whales folks have been planning for a long time.

You know, clearly -- and this is a three punch, right? You've got the Netflix show, you've got the book that is coming out. And you know, this is part of a big effort in the series that's going to follow all of this by Meghan and Harry to really keep themselves in the bloodstream and to keep finding ways to make money off of this story, when what they told us was that they wanted privacy and a quiet life. So how does that work?

SEAN: You know, I think me and you leave quite alive, don't you? I mean, it's incredible, really.

MACCALLUM: Exactly.

SEAN: Because these people, you know, I love the fact as well, I don't if you saw this picture today, but there was a picture today of Meghan with her mother, and allegedly Archie, you know, the invisible child. And what's incredible there is that suddenly, she's now having to sell the child into the projects, because she knows that, you know, things are running out. He's becoming pretty desperate.

She mentioned the child and the setup and the variety interview. You know, you can only go so wrong before you run out. And really, as I often say, and you know this well, Martha, you're a talented lady, talent out shines in the end. And what William and Catherine are doing is good things. They're representing wonderful King Charles, you know, and it's a big, big event.

If I was, you know, Prince William, you know, the Prince of Wales, I'd be very, very upset at just how difficult and hurtful his younger brothers been particularly so soon after the sad demise of Queen Elizabeth II, how he can sit there and think this is a good idea. You know, really, one might say, how much hatred for your own family do you truly have?

MACCALLUM: Well, that's the way it appears and there was all this talk during the funeral that maybe they would be able to mend fences. I mean, it's more clear than ever, Neil, there's absolutely no effort on the part of Harry and Meghan. I mean, they're making it quite clear that they've got their knives out in this. They are not looking to mend fences. Would you agree?

SEAN: Absolutely. And I think what's really quite sad is, you know, King Charles, as you know, Martha, you follow the royals incredibly well, is a warm compassionate person, you know. He invited them over for Christmas. They've spurned him perhaps now, King Charles is sitting down tonight with Camilla who's battling her own race route problem after that particular event at Buckingham Palace. You know, they must be thinking, thank goodness, they're not coming. And if you remember, of course, even apparently, the late Queen said, thank goodness, Meghan wasn't coming to the funeral of the Duke of Edinburgh. You know, history repeats itself, doesn't it?

They're going to become null and void very soon. But while, you know, we're slightly interested, we're intrigued. The interesting point there as well, Martha, when he said, not many people get to see behind the curtain. Are we interested? I mean, do they not think that we may not be interested in what they've gone through in a cost of living crisis where everybody's struggling around the world, it's rich people Dallas-Dynasty, Falken Crest, Knots Landing all rolled into one, but they were infinitely better.

MACCALLUM: Yes. They had such an opportunity to do the kind of work that they say they want to do as part of the family. But they walked away from all of that, now they seem to want to stay in the limelight. I don't know if we have a picture of William and Kate at the Celtics game last night, but I thought they worked and they looked as confused as I would look if you took me to a cricket match. It was hilarious.

They're so, you know, they were lovely as always but they were kind of looking around like what is this? What happens here?

SEAN: What are we doing? I mean, it's true. You come to London a lot, Martha, you know while quirks and things like that, things are explained to them in advance. But, you know, when you're there in the moment you think what's going on.

MACCALLUM: I know. I thought -- there used to be in a Wimbledon box, you know, and they were sort of in the front row and it's loud and the basketballs are going over their head sounds like Welcome to America. Neil, thank you. Always good to see you, my friend.

SEAN: My pleasure.

MACCALLUM: We'll talk to you --

SEAN: Take care, Martha.

MACCALLUM: So that's THE STORY for today on this Thursday, December 1st. It's already December, can you believe it? So THE STORY goes on. And a reminder that my new podcast with former FBI investigator Bill Daly where we drill down on what is happening in Idaho, we are so hoping for a break in that case. So we'll continue to stay on it. Thank you for being here and sharing this hour with us. We look forward to seeing all of you tomorrow at 3:00. Your World is up next.

END

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HD **Interview With State Rep. Paul Renner (R-FL); Apple CEO Meets with GOP Lawmakers; Public Confidence Falling in U.S. Military?; Idaho Murder Investigation; FTX Founder Speaks Out; Senate Averts Rail Strike; Border Surge**

BY Christina Coleman, Hillary Vaughn, Jack Keane, Ted Williams, Jackie DeAngelis, Kelly O'Grady, Casey Stegall, Peter Doocy, Charles Payne

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SC CAVU

LA English

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LP

CHARLES PAYNE, FOX NEWS ANCHOR: FOX on top of border crossings over the top, in just two months, 400,000 of them. That's enough to fill Yankee Stadium eight times over. And now it's December, the month Title 42 ends. So where does this end?

Welcome, everyone. I'm Charles Payne, in Neil Cavuto. And this is "Your World."

TD

We have got FOX team coverage with Casey Stegall in Texas, where border officials are looking to D.C. for answers, and Peter Doocy at the White House, where a particular answer on this is making waves.

First to Casey Stegall in Eagle Pass, Texas, where we are learning about a record number of got-aways in November.

CASEY STEGALL, FOX NEWS SENIOR CORRESPONDENT: Hey, Charles. Good to see you.

We certainly are. And we are now officially in the third month of CBP's new fiscal year, as you pointed out. That started on October the 1st. And a brand-new figure at this hour, 137,000 known got-aways since that time, according to CBP. So the sector is picking right up where they left off, very, very busy, while, here in Eagle Pass in and around Del Rio, agents say they're encountering two to three large groups every single day, accounting for at least 90 percent of all large groups that now enter the country illegally.

That's traveling across the Southern border in groups of 100 or more together. Nearly 96 percent of all fentanyl being smuggled into America also coming through Mexico, according to the data. Almost daily, CBP intercepts large quantities of that drug, among others, at ports of entry, but officials fear that they are only making a real dent in the supply, since the powerful synthetic opioid is still so readily available on the streets.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MIGUEL MADRIGAL, DEA SPECIAL AGENT: Before, like any type of illegal drug, was -- you had to go to a shady side of town or you had to wait on crops. Fentanyl is completely different. It's year-round. And you could buy it off your phone. You could get on social media and order pills and they could be delivered to your home.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

STEGALL: Meantime, researchers at the University of Houston are working on a fentanyl vaccine.

And in about 30 minutes, Texas Governor Greg Abbott will visit the lab and he will be meeting with scientists. The vaccine has shown promise in mice. And human testing is supposed to begin in a few months...

(HORN BLARING)

STEGALL: ... as the train is blasting its horn back behind me. The vaccine works by preventing fentanyl from actually entering your brain, and that reduces the risk of poisoning and overdose -- Charles.

PAYNE: Wow.

Casey, thank you very much.

Now to the White House, where President Joe Biden is facing pressure over his handling of this crisis.

Peter Doocy is at the White House with the very latest -- Peter.

PETER DOOCY, FOX NEWS WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT: Charles, the White House counts President Biden's border experience as a 2008 drive-by. We went back and checked on a trip that he made in 2008. It was very brief. He landed in El Paso, Texas, and drove basically straight north -- you can see it there -- to events in New Mexico, away from the border.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DOOCY: Thank you, Karine. Kevin McCarthy says that he invited President Biden down to the border. Has the president RSVPed?

(LAUGHTER)

DOOCY: We know the president has never been down to the border.

The possible next speaker says that he wants him to go with him. So is he going to?

KARINE JEAN-PIERRE, WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY: So, look, he's been there. He's been to the border.

And since he took office...

DOOCY: When did he go to the border?

JEAN-PIERRE: Since he took office, the president, Biden, has been taking action to fix our immigration system and secure our border.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

DOOCY: Well, about a year ago, President Biden himself admitted there could be some value in taking a trip to the U.S.-Mexico border.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOE BIDEN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: I have been there before, and I haven't -- I mean, I know it well. I guess I should go down, but the -- but the whole point of it is, I haven't had a whole hell of a lot of time to get down.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

DOOCY: There is a group of four Democratic senators who wrote a letter to the DHS secretary, Alejandro Mayorkas, giving him a deadline of today to answer a list of questions about what is going on with this administration's immigration policy.

Now we wait to see if Mayorkas writes back -- Charles.

PAYNE: Peter, thank you very much.

Seventy-three thousand, that's how many known got-aways slipped past the border in November, this according to Customs and Border Protection Services. It is believed to be the highest number for a single month ever recorded. But will that number actually look tame when Title 42 goes away?

National Border Patrol Council Brandon's Judd joins me now.

Brandon, everyone's bracing for this thing to be exponentially worse, but it's hard to even fathom. Do you think we have gotten to the point now where these numbers are so mind-boggling, that they don't even have the same sort of impact, the same sort of punch anymore? It's like two million here, 70,000 there.

It's just -- it's just the numbers have gotten so big, they don't even shock us anymore.

BRANDON JUDD, PRESIDENT, NATIONAL BORDER PATROL COUNCIL: No, and the reason is, because it's the new norm.

The problem when you listen to what the press secretary said about Biden going to the border, the more you tell a lie, if you're not fact-checked, that lie becomes the truth. And that's the problem. And so when you look at these numbers, as the numbers continue to go up, and as the Biden administration continues to deflect, and they continue to say that the border is under control, when Secretary Mayorkas goes before Congress and says that the border is under control, if nobody fact-checks them, then that lie becomes reality.

And that's the problem that we're seeing today. The Washington Times, New York -- I'm sorry -- The Washington Post, The New York Times, all of these major outlets, they're not fact-checking this administration. And so the border -- the absolute chaos that exists on the border, the vast majority of the American people, they don't understand what is currently going on.

PAYNE: Right.

JUDD: And that's the problem that we face today. If we don't get this under control, the numbers are going to continue to rise. But nobody's going to know about it.

PAYNE: Yes. You know what? They don't fact-check a whole lot of things. But they don't also, in my opinion, care too much about this.

And I think there's a major issue with that as well. And the only time we have heard from those kinds of publications is when these migrants ended up on Martha's Vineyard or in New York City. Other than that, it doesn't make the news. It's not worthy of the news. And the folks who have to deal with it day to day just don't count. And I think that's a big problem, Brandon.

JUDD: No, you're absolutely correct.

And that's why that 73,000 number -- and, by the way, Charles, that's the number that we know right now. There's still another 15,000 that are -- that have not been reconciled. So that number could actually go up to nearly 90,000 people that have crossed the border illegally and have been able to evade apprehension.

That is a huge problem today. But, again, if we don't have an honest conversation -- and that's all I want to have. I want to have an honest conversation with the American people. And if we have that honest conversation, the American people will be upset. But because we're not fact-checking them, it continues to go on.

PAYNE: I want to go back to what you mentioned and what we started with, the White House, the claim that President Biden has been to the border.

We saw in that interview said he knew a lot about it. I mean, he's pretty good to land in El Paso and drive straight north and get -- about over a decade ago, almost two, and to get the whole thing.

And just how important is it that the commander in chief understand what's happening down there? This is a national security risk, isn't it?

JUDD: Let me tell you, he doesn't understand anything about what's going on, on the border. And that clearly shows in his actions.

Of course, he's going to give us the political rhetoric. He's going to say what his base wants to hear. But, in reality, he does not understand the border and the -- and the danger that it presents to the American people. If he did, he would actually do something about it.

We are going to feel all of the effects of this down the road. And one day, we're going to come back and we're going to say, this was his fault. And he had the solutions. He could have implemented the solutions, but he failed to do anything about it.

PAYNE: Wow. That got-aways number is shocking. These people are deliberately evading capture. And you have to wonder why.

Brandon, thank you very much. Appreciate it.

JUDD: Thank you, Charles. OK.

PAYNE: All right, folks, to Capitol Hill, the Senate just voting to avert a nationwide rail strike, this as a separate measure for seven days of sick leave for union workers was voted down.

To Chad Pergram, Capitol -- tracking, rather, it all from Capitol Hill. He joins us now -- Chad.

CHAD PERGRAM, FOX NEWS SENIOR CAPITOL HILL PRODUCER: Charles, a catastrophic Christmas time railroad crisis averted.

Congress intervening to prevent a rail strike for the first time in three decades, the Senate vote, 88-15, with Rand Paul voting present. President Biden dispatched Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg and Labor Secretary Marty Walsh to Capitol Hill. They implored pro-labor senators to back off from a push for seven days of paid sick leave.

That would have tanked the deal.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. BERNIE SANDERS (I-VT): The amendment simply says seven paid sick days for workers in the rail industry, and I hope we can win it.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PERGRAM: But the medical leave plan could not overcome a filibuster.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. NANCY PELOSI (D-CA): If we had 60 votes in the Senate, it could possibly happen, but we don't have 60 votes in the Senate.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PERGRAM: Lawmakers from both sides opposed congressional intervention and the labor dispute. Some Republicans pushed another two-month cooling-off period. That would give the rail lines and unions more time to negotiate.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. DAN SULLIVAN (R-AK): Give negotiators more time to get to an agreement. And it will not make Congress the entity of last resort in these kinds of negotiations.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PERGRAM: But that effort failed as well. Congress needed to act by the weekend. Otherwise, some firms would stop important shipments in the coming days -- Charles.

PAYNE: Chad, thank you very much.

Now to the crypto collapse. FTX founder Sam Bankman-Fried speaking out, and investors are lashing out -- Kelly.

KELLY O'GRADY, FOX BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT: Yes.

Well, SBF isn't in jail. He's on a media tour, it seems, Charles, but he claims he didn't commit fraud, he just made a mistake. But all the billions are still missing.

More after this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

EVAN LUTHRA, FTX INVESTOR: Well, why are you not in jail in the first place? This interview could have also taken place behind bars.

There's a lot of questions I would have for the guy there. So -- but we do know that he has an intention to defraud us. He has done a crime. He knows what he was doing.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

PAYNE: Disgraced FTX founder Sam Bankman-Fried now saying there was no fraud. Investors out billions saying there's just no way that's true.

To FOX Business' Kelly O'Grady with the very latest -- Kelly.

O'GRADY: Hi, Charles.

Yes, the headline coming out of his New York Times and "Good Morning America" interviews was, he screwed up, but he's criminally liable.

And he chose his words really carefully, saying: I didn't ever try to commit fraud. I didn't knowingly commingle funds.

Instead, SBF is blaming FTX's sister company, Alameda, for the mess, claiming he simply didn't know what was going on there, even though he's the owner. Now, being incompetent doesn't mean you broke the law. But, to be very clear, FTX customer assets were loaned out to Alameda. And the company's user agreement says it would not take user money. To SBF, that isn't fraud, it's just a mistake, as he simply didn't care to focus on the parts of the business that didn't make money.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SAM BANKMAN-FRIED, CEO, FTX: Some part of it was just literal distraction. I spent a lot less time looking assets and looking at balances and positions, because that's not where revenue came from.

And so it -- I wasn't seeing it as a core business driver. Obviously, it was a core risk.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

O'GRADY: Now, that's a stunning statement from a self-styled do-gooder.

And all this took center stage at a hearing today, the Senate Agriculture Committee seeking to get to the bottom of the FTX collapse, regulators sharing their authority was limited to dig into what the platform was engaged in, though, according to SBF, this all happened not because of his own -- or because of his own lack of oversight.

And get this. I thought this quote was wild. He said: "I think there is something maybe even deeper wrong here, which I wasn't even trying. I wasn't spending any time or effort trying to manage risk on FTX. I think I got a little cocky."

I mean, Charles, imagine hearing that if you lost thousands, millions, billions. And that's the answer he gives? Wild.

PAYNE: Yes. Well, you know what? The way the fawned over him in Silicon Valley, maybe he did get a little cocky.

Kelly, thank you very much.

Meanwhile, FTX founder Bankman-Fried getting a platform to speak out. And investors like Evan Luthra, who was right here yesterday, lashing out.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

LUTHRA: I think this is a big -- a big failure on the part of New York Times to give the gentleman like SBF a stage alongside people like Mark Zuckerberg, president of Ukraine. It's really surprising to me to see this happening in the first place.

We know what he has done. We know what actions he has taken, how he has done -- we know the crimes he has committed. He should already be behind bars. It just does not make any sense to me.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PAYNE: To FOX Business' Jackie DeAngelis.

You know, and not only did he get the stage, Jackie. He got a pretty robust ovation at the end of it. And it's so funny. That Kelly had, that was one I was going to read here too. So I had written that down.

It all -- but so many of these things he's saying in the last few days stick out, don't they?

JACKIE DEANGELIS, FOX BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT: Yes.

And at one point during the conference yesterday, he turned around and said something like, I had a bad month, and everybody started laughing.

(LAUGHTER)

PAYNE: Yes.

DEANGELIS: I mean, this isn't a laughing matter.

And at this point, I'm even wondering why he is doing "Good Morning America" and why he's sitting down with The New York Times DealBook and making comments on this at all.

I think he puts out very rightly there that he chose his words carefully, and he trying to set him up -- himself up as somebody who didn't intend to do something, because that's what you need for criminality. But having said that, there is a paper trail.

PAYNE: Right.

DEANGELIS: And what regulators need to do is go through that and try to find out exactly what happened. And at the end of the day, he was sitting at the top of that helm, and he did admit that there were no controls in place.

So, I mean, I don't even know why he's doing this. It's not helping.

PAYNE: Well, it's interesting that his -- maybe his interview today with "Good Morning America" was a little bit better. But if you go back a couple of days ago, right, he's getting -- he's honing it.

But every time he speaks, there's also a verbal trail.

DEANGELIS: Right.

PAYNE: And I'm reading a list. Attorneys are saying he's made seven mistakes. I saw one list of 12 mistakes.

I mean, he is digging himself into this huge hole, to the point where people are cynical. They're wondering, OK, this is the second biggest donor to the Democratic Party in the last presidential election. He's got family and friends with deep connections. Is he cocky? Again, is he still cocky, to the point he knows something, that he will never face true justice?

I think people are worried about that.

DEANGELIS: I think they're worried about it. And I think that they have a reason to be worried about it. And perhaps that is why he's acting this way.

If you were worried about being indicted for this, for example, the first thing your attorney would tell you to do is, don't speak, stop talking, don't go on the record, so they can count the mistakes you have made, or how you have changed your story here. Yet he keeps doing it.

So what I'm thinking at this point is, he's sitting in the Bahamas. He hasn't been indicted .He hasn't been extradited. And then, of course, you have got the CFTC chairman sitting down in front of the Senate Agriculture Committee today, and they're talking about this. They're sort of pontificating about regulation, without really getting to the bottom of it.

PAYNE: Right. Right.

DEANGELIS: Who's looking at the criminality of what happened here?

PAYNE: Right.

You know what? Another thing too is, they had -- they did a lot with the money, but there was one thing that stands out, a festival that they were involved in Miami in May. I mean, take a look at this thing. They pumped people's money into this. They had so much fun with other people's money, hard-earned money that folks will never see again.

This is brazen.

DEANGELIS: Yes.

PAYNE: This is really brazen stuff.

DEANGELIS: That's brazen. Buying the real estate is brazen.

I have been looking at this, Charles, and -- with two different layers. The first layer would be, OK, you created a token, and you gave it a value. And that's something they can look into, how to price these assets and how to regulate them.

But any exchange, taking customer funds, spending it in this reckless way, is illegal, whether it's securities, whether it's derivatives, whether it's crypto. And that's where I think the regulators missed the boat in the most egregious place of fraud here.

PAYNE: What about confidence that they will get it right this time?

I think another big part of this story is that the American public doesn't have a lot of faith that the regulators will figure it out or get it right. And they wonder why.

DEANGELIS: And why should they?

To your earlier point, and how cocky Sam Bankman-Fried is acting, remember that he gave millions of dollars in campaign donations to some of the same people who were sitting in that room today, and are supposed to be overseeing this. And so you have to wonder how those people can be impartial under the circumstances.

PAYNE: Yes. It's so heartbreaking. It's just -- really, I get so upset with this thing. I can't wait to drill down further and further and kind of wipe the smirk off his face.

DEANGELIS: Yes, I hear you.

PAYNE: All right, thanks a lot, Jackie.

Coming up: from wokeness to wakeness, a new survey of America's military leaders raising some serious alarms. Is the Pentagon becoming too politicized? General Jack Keane is here on that.

But, first, to Idaho, where something police are clarifying is increasing this murder mystery even more.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

PAYNE: Could a potential move in Florida's Statehouse be signaling a run by Governor Ron DeSantis for the White House?

And after meeting with Elon Musk, why Apple CEO Tim Cook is on Capitol Hill today. Hillary's on the hunt for answers.

And we're back in 60 seconds.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

PAYNE: Nearly three weeks after four University of Idaho students were killed in their off-campus home, investigators on the case maintaining the attack was targeted, but they're clarifying how.

FOX News' Christina Coleman is in Moscow, Idaho, with the latest -- Christina.

CHRISTINA COLEMAN, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Hi, Charles.

Yes, there's been a lot of confusion over this, based off of the statements that police have been saying. But, today, they are maintaining that they still believe that this was a targeted attack. Here's what they said in their new statement today.

They said -- quote -- "Our clarification last night directly address comments made by Latah County prosecutor Thompson, who said the suspect or suspects specifically looked at this residence and that one or more of the occupants were undoubtedly targeted. We remain consistent in our belief that this was indeed a targeted attack, but have not concluded if the target was the residents or its occupants."

Also, there is some progress in this case. Idaho State Police say investigators are starting to receive forensic testing results from a crime lab. Meantime, this community is still grieving. Parents of three of the victims attended a candlelight vigil last night at the university in honor of the slain students.

One of the victims is 20-year-old Ethan Chapin. Last night, at the vigil, his mother shared this advice:

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

STACY CHAPIN, MOTHER OF VICTIM: I want to remind you that that's the most important message that we have for you and your families, is to make sure that you spend as much time as possible with those people, because time is precious, and it's something you can't get back.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

COLEMAN: There were a lot of heartfelt messages last night.

The father of Kaylee Goncalves also shared stories about his daughter and Madison Mogen. He says they were best friends up until the very end.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

STEVE GONCALVES, FATHER OF VICTIM: Then they started looking at colleges. They came here together. They eventually get into the same apartment together. And, in the end, they died together in the same room, in the same bed. And it's -- it's a shame. And it hurts.

But the beauty of the two always being together something that will -- will -- it comforts us.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

COLEMAN: Also, in an exclusive interview with FOX News yesterday, the father of Madison Mogen urged anyone who could help with this investigation to come forward.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BENJAMIN MOGEN, FATHER OF VICTIM: Every time I wake up, I remember what's going on. And it's like -- yes, it's -- I don't know how you ever get used to this. It's never going to...

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Life will never be the same.

MOGEN: ... go away.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

COLEMAN: And, again, so many unanswered questions in this case. No word on the killers whereabouts or a motive or a murder weapon. Just a lot of questions still remain -- back to you.

PAYNE: Yes, it's so heartbreaking and infuriating at the same time.

Christina, thank you very much.

Here with me now to discuss, former D.C. homicide detective and FOX News contributor Ted Williams.

And, Ted, you have spent a lot of time out there. You have been at the scene almost from the very beginning. What are you making now of this police clarification?

TED WILLIAMS, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: You know, Charles, you're absolutely right.

I have been out there in Idaho. And I was at one of their press conferences. And I asked the first question, and that was about this targeting. And we got a very weak answer then. And I think what the law enforcement has put out there now concerning targeting is weak, because what they're saying is that, hey, they believe somebody was targeted, but they don't know if it was the house or one of the individuals.

Well, if they don't know that, who in the hell was targeted? You -- listen, when you look at what has gone on here, you have an erosion of public confidence. You need the public engaged and involved in order to try to settle -- to solve these cases.

And, sadly, law enforcement, unfortunately, has put out a great deal of misinformation. And it really is not helping in this investigation, Charles.

PAYNE: You know, Ted, I would imagine it's maybe a tough decision to decide what to share and what not to share with the public.

But, also, from what I'm getting out, there's a tremendous amount of frustration. And, to your point, if there's targeting involved, what does that look like? Because other people want to make sure that they're not a potential target themselves.

WILLIAMS: Well, you're absolutely right.

Right now, I can tell you the public out there in Moscow, Idaho, is very, very disturbed. They are very concerned about their own safety, because they know that there is a killer or killers out there.

And when you give the public information, you cannot give misinformation.

PAYNE: Right. Right.

WILLIAMS: And, unfortunately, this is what has happened.

PAYNE: So, we're hearing now some forensic tests are starting to come back. A lot of speculation on whether the killer or killers might have injured themselves. Could there be some blood samples?

What kind of a boost might we see from -- now that some of this key forensic evidence is coming through?

WILLIAMS: Well, it's going to take a while, I believe. And we have to just, fortunately or unfortunately, be patient.

They are going to get these forensics. They're going to examine them. They're going to try to connect the dots. They're going to try to see if there's some kind of a DNA connection. And I will tell you, since this house was sort of like what was definitively a party house, where a lot of kids partied at, they have got a hell of a job ahead of them using -- and trying to use the -- to determine anybody's DNA and was anyone involved.

PAYNE: Ted Williams, thank you very much.

So, is a new survey on America's military leadership raising alarms at the Pentagon? Why General Jack Keane says it should.

And some Republicans in Florida's Statehouse may be trying to make it easier for Governor Ron DeSantis to run for the White House. Florida's House speaker is here.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

PAYNE: A new national defense survey outlining an alarming threat -- trend, rather. Less than half of Americans say that they have a great deal of trust in the U.S. military.

Now, that's down from 70 percent just five years ago. The Ronald Reagan institute says more people see the military becoming politicized, and that's driving the decline in confidence.

FOX News senior strategic analyst Four-Star -- retired Four-Star General Jack Keane joins us now to discuss.

This is one of those things, General Keane, that the police and the military have always been held in such high regard. When you see this, it has to raise alarm bells. Do you think the Pentagon is worried about it?

GEN. JACK KEANE (RET.), FOX NEWS SENIOR STRATEGIC ANALYST: Well, of course, they will be.

I mean, this confirms other surveys that have been done, Charles, that are pretty similar. And it really -- it transcends administrations here. It was 70 percent in 2018. It takes a dive 14 percent by February of '21 in a Republican administration, another 8 percent in a Democratic administration.

If I was the senior civilian and military leaders in the Pentagon, I would take it very serious. I mean, after all, I mean, having spent 38 years on active-duty and still very much involved, I know how the leaders feel. I mean, they're working for the American people.

PAYNE: Right.

KEANE: And it's the American people who have these perceptions.

So, dig into it, find out what are driving these perceptions. Some of the survey gives you some understanding of that. Politicization is part of that. And what actions are they doing that are contributing to that perception? And do an honest assessment and come back to the American people and talk straight to them about it.

The American people deserve to get straight answers.

PAYNE: But, General, can they -- can they do an honest assessment and go to the White House and discuss this, I mean, have a legitimate conversation and say, hey, listen, we know there's an overarching woke agenda, but we think it's hurting us, hurting our ability to find new recruits, it's hurting our ability to be able to defend this nation?

KEANE: If they believe that is the case, and they can't go to the White House, then they don't deserve the positions they're in.

I mean, they answer to the Constitution. And the White House certainly gives them orders. And they are going to obey those orders, if they're illegal and morally correct. But they have got every right to disagree. And that's what they should be doing if they find that there's policy disagreements here.

I am encouraged by some of the things in the survey, that the American people have embraced the fact that China and Russia are clearly our enemies, Russia 80 percent embraced by the American people, 75 percent in China as well. And certainly that is a clear understanding of what is actually taking place in the world. And the American people, as usual, have got it.

PAYNE: Yes.

Well, again, though, some folks think that they're just -- quote, unquote -- "competitors."

And on that, let me -- let me piggyback off that, President Biden telling reporters today that he has -- quote -- "no immediate plans" to contact Russian President Vladimir Putin. But he is prepared to talk to him if Putin wants to talk about ending the war in Ukraine.

What do you make of this?

KEANE: Well, I understand what he's saying.

I think negotiations, if they're going to take place, will likely not take place until there really is a bona fide stalemate, where the Ukrainians don't think they can retake any more territory and the Russians don't believe they can retake more Ukrainian territory as well. And we're not there yet.

But when negotiations do take place, it should be between the Ukrainians and the Russians. And that is a fact. And I think President Biden has had before many times that he believes that's the case, that this is all about the Ukrainians.

The United States obviously are players here, because we're supporting this war. We're the largest supporter in the world. And we do have a voice, and it should be heard. But the primary negotiation has got to be between the Ukrainians and the Russians.

PAYNE: Right.

Well, you have a fair amount of Republicans, as the Republicans take over the House, that are concerned about our -- the amount of money that we have poured into this war, the accountability of it, and things like that. Should we have a better accounting of what's happening with the American taxpayer dollars?

KEANE: You betcha. I mean, when we're spending American taxpayer dollars, I mean, I think the under-guiding principle the American people have is a general skepticism about it.

So, yes, of course, we -- and we learned some real lessons in Afghanistan, where we know full well that the Afghans were taken our money in corruption, and not all of that showed up in the Afghan units in terms of training and equipment.

PAYNE: Right.

KEANE: So, yes, there should be a good accounting here. The Congress has a right to ask for that. We are spending American taxpayers' dollars here.

Most of that money, however, is actually going to our defense industry to replenish our stockpiles.

PAYNE: I got you.

KEANE: So, it's the American work and the defense industry that's kind of benefiting from the military assistance. That's where it's heading.

PAYNE: OK.

General Keane, always a pleasure. Thank you so much. Thank you.

All right.

KEANE: Yes, great talking to you, Charles.

PAYNE: You too.

There could soon be a move in Florida's Statehouse to set up a potential run by Governor Ron DeSantis for the White House. The lawmaker behind that is here.

But, first, after meeting with Elon Musk, now Apple CEO Tim Cook is in a bunch of meetings on Capitol Hill.

So, what's this all about, Hillary?

HILLARY VAUGHN, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Hi, Charles.

Well, Apple CEO Tim Cook is trying to get some face time with Republicans in the House who will soon be in power and in charge of oversight over his company. One lawmaker tells us things behind closed doors got pretty tense.

We will have the details coming up.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

QUESTION: Do you support the Chinese people's right to protest?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

PAYNE: A big tech executive, like, really big tech executive, looking to make friends on Capitol Hill today.

Apple CEO Tim Cook meeting with the Republican House lawmakers, this before they officially take the majority next year.

Hillary Vaughn was there when he arrived. And she joins us now from Capitol Hill -- Hillary.

VAUGHN: Hi, Charles.

Well, before Tim Cook arrived here on Capitol Hill, he cleared the air with Twitter's Elon Musk in California at Apple's headquarters. Musk saying the two had a good conversation, and that Tim Cook assured him that removing Twitter from the App Store was not on the table.

But Cook is facing even more questions from lawmakers here on Capitol Hill who have voiced their concerns about the ongoing zero COVID protests in China and whether Apple coordinated with the Chinese government to limit AirDrop access, a key tool for protesters.

Senator Josh Hawley writing a letter to Tim Cook, saying this: "Your company appears to be actively supporting the Chinese government's brutal crackdown. Under your leadership, Apple has time and again assisted the Chinese Communist Party in surveilling and suppressing the basic human rights of the Chinese people."

So we tried to get some answers from Tim Cook.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

VAUGHN: Mr. Cook, do you support the Chinese people's right to protest? Do you have any reaction to the factory workers that were beaten and detained for protesting COVID lockdowns?

Do you regret restricting AirDrop access that protesters used to evade surveillance from the Chinese government? Do you think it's problematic to do business with the communist Chinese Party when they suppress human rights?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

VAUGHN: That was on -- that was when Cook was on his way to meet with lawmakers. He met with Republicans who will soon be in charge of powerful oversight of Apple, once Republicans take the House majority in January, one of those, including Congressman Darrell Issa.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. DARRELL ISSA (R-CA): One are the things that Tim Cook said that we're going to hold him to, he said he would be Switzerland. And we expect him to do just that, to be a tech leader of a neutral, politically neutral organization.

Free speech has to be both sides having full access. He made the commitment that he'd be Switzerland. We're going to hold him to it.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

VAUGHN: And, Charles, that's what Republicans say they're going to do when they take power in the House. They're going to crack down on big tech and make sure that all political views are able to be represented -- Charles.

PAYNE: Great stuff there, tough, tough questions. Thanks a lot, Hillary.

Now to some troubling signs for the economy ahead of tomorrow's big employment report. A new survey finds that job cuts soared 127 percent in November. That's from the month before, up a record-shattering 417 percent from the same time last year.

Economist Steve Moore joins me now.

Steve, that was the Challenger, Gray report. But there were so many economic data reports out today. All of them missed, all of them sending big red flags and red flares about where this economy is heading. What do you make of it?

STEPHEN MOORE, FORMER DONALD TRUMP CAMPAIGN ADVISER: Yes, you saw the report of more and more companies talking about layoffs. Now, that's problematic, certainly.

And we didn't get a very good jobs report from the private people who are monitors of what's happening in private employment.

PAYNE: ADP.

MOORE: So I do think the job market is slowing down. But it's still a pretty strong job market. We still have 10 million jobs open in this country. That number is down.

But we will see. I will -- by the way, I will be on FOX Business with Maria when that report comes out. I think you might be on as well.

PAYNE: Yes.

MOORE: So I'm expecting a reduction in the number of jobs that were created. And the big question, of course, that you have been asking, Charles, and that everyone is asking is, are we on the precipice of a -- of some kind of recession in 2023?

Too early to tell, as far as I'm concerned.

PAYNE: So, when you see, for instance, today, the manufacturing data come in contracting, construction came in worse than anticipated, you have already referenced that ADP report, where 100,000 manufacturing jobs were lost.

MOORE: That's right.

PAYNE: There was a shocker yesterday out of Chicago, a massive decline, month-over-month decline in Chicago that, ironically, in many ways, suggests the auto industry could be in more trouble than we believe.

I mean, they're mounting up. What do you need to see, Steve, to believe that we're -- that recession is inevitable?

MOORE: I'm not saying that a recession is inevitable. I think we could still potentially skate around a recession.

The big news -- the other big news that came out, this report, Charles, this week is that the Fed basically announced that they're going to do this 50-basis-point increase in rates, but then they may take a pause on that.

PAYNE: Right.

MOORE: And, of course, Wall Street reacted very positively to that, because, as you know, Charles, your friends on Wall Street are addicted to this cheap money from the Fed.

And so that -- I do see some improvement on the inflation front.

PAYNE: Right. Right.

MOORE: We got a pretty good inflation number this week.

But we're still at about 6 or 7 percent inflation. That's way, way, way from where we should be at 1 to 2 percent.

PAYNE: So -- and, by the way, you're right. Everyone loves free money until you have to pay for it.

Steve...

(LAUGHTER)

MOORE: Exactly, including -- by the way, including consumers, right, consumers.

That's the one thing that's been strong in the economy is consumer spending.

PAYNE: Yes.

MOORE: And what really concerns me is, not only do we have a national government, our federal government, that's \$30 trillion in debt.

But now you're seeing -- and you have reported on this, Charles -- a big increase in consumer debt on credit cards.

PAYNE: Right.

MOORE: And I don't know about you, but when I see that credit card bill in January after all the Christmas shopping, I'm like, I can't believe I spent that much money.

PAYNE: Yes.

To your point, right now, savings are at this -- one of the lowest ever, 2.3 percent.

MOORE: That's right.

PAYNE: Credit card bills went up 20 percent, the debts 15 percent.

I got to go, but I do want to get a quick thought on averting this rail strike. How much of a disaster did we avert?

MOORE: It would have been a total disaster if the rail workers had gone on strike.

But I have got to say, Charles, this whole debacle is because of the runaway inflation we have seen. Prices are up 15 percent now since Joe Biden came into office, so it's no wonder workers want a pay raise.

PAYNE: Yes, that's -- again, that gets back to all the free money. We have to pay the price for it.

MOORE: That's right.

PAYNE: Steve, thank you so much, my friend.

Coming up: A potential change in Florida's Statehouse could signal -- or could be signaling that Ron DeSantis may make a run for the White House.

We have got the guy who's leading the charge here.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

PAYNE: To Florida now.

The top Republican in the Statehouse there is signaling he is willing to change state law to allow Governor Ron DeSantis to run for president without having to resign, if he chooses to run.

He's here now to discuss, Florida House Speaker Paul Renner.

Congressman, the plot thickens, so to speak. I remember, during the -- during the election, reporters were asking, and, of course, Ron DeSantis' rival asking, trying to get out of him whether or not he would be running for president. He was pretty mute about it.

But this is going to open up a whole lot of speculation. Why are you pushing this?

STATE REP. PAUL RENNER (R-FL): Well, obviously, the governor and I are focused on this upcoming session and the needs of Florida.

But the issue is this. Would our governor have to resign right out of the gate before he would actually be elected president, as would be the case with most people running for office? And we think he shouldn't. And so there's some ambiguity in the law that needs to be fixed, so that if the governor chooses to share

his vision and the real leadership that we have enjoyed here in Florida with America, he can do so without having to immediately resign as governor.

PAYNE: I would imagine it's -- maybe it would be sort of bittersweet.

I mean, certainly, Governor DeSantis has done an amazing job. You look at how Florida came through the COVID pandemic. Everyone's moving there. Businesses are moving there. He's become a national superstar. I'm sure you don't want to lose him. But, by the same token, I think the rest of the country might want to get a piece of that action too.

RENNER: Well, I think that will be his decision.

But we sure have it great here in Florida. And he's a big reason for that. And so we would hate to lose him. But I think it's fair for him to offer his talents and his leadership to the rest of the country.

PAYNE: Let me ask you about a decision made earlier today, of course, and this goes back to, of course, you, Congressman, being outspoken about this woke environmental policies, on Wall Street, in particular, Florida pulling \$2 billion worth of assets managed by BlackRock, other states looking to do the same or have done the same.

Where do you see all of this heading?

RENNER: Well, not in a good direction.

I think ESG, for those that don't know, is really driving up our cost of living. And, most importantly, it bypasses democracy. You have martini millionaires that are making decisions on major, major issues that belong in the Congress and belong in the state legislatures.

And so we pushed back. I sent a letter to our credit rating agencies. Florida has the highest credit rating you can get. And we said, look, you got to drop the ESG politics, because they're now demanding that information from us. And so you could have a situation where Florida has a lower credit rating than a state like California or Illinois, where they don't balance their budget, they don't lower their debt, and have record reserves like we do.

PAYNE: Right. Right.

And, by the way, environmental, social and governance, I have been raising the alarm on this for five years. I'm glad everyone is finally catching up.

Real quick, I got less than a minute ago, Bob Iger comes back to Disney. A lot of people believe that they had gotten too woke. It's good to have opinions. It feels like maybe he's changing a little bit, that he's going to be focused on one thing, and one thing only, and that's fun for the customer.

What do you think?

RENNER: Yes, I mean, look, no state wants somebody from out of state coming in and dictating their values to us. And that bill was really falsely maligned.

PAYNE: Sure.

RENNER: And they should have never been involved in that battle in the first place.

PAYNE: Yes, I mean, again, it's early, but I think everyone watched how much money everyone lost, how sad everyone is.

RENNER: Yes.

PAYNE: And maybe, I think, Bob Iger will come in and do a good job.

Thank you so much. Appreciate you.

And, folks, thank you at home. And, remember, you can catch me tomorrow. It's jobs day. It's a huge day. This market is going to be up big or down big. I will be on at 2:00 p.m., "Making Money." Again, grab a pen and pad. I'm always trying to teach you a few things too.

But, for now, here's "The Five."

THIS IS A RUSH TRANSCRIPT. THIS COPY MAY NOT BE IN ITS FINAL FORM AND MAY BE UPDATED.

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HD **American Prosperity Depends On Energy; America Faces Dark Winter Due To Biden's Policies; Heating Costs Skyrocket As Temperature Plummets; Diesel Shortage Will Lead To More Expensive Home Heating Costs; Fears Grow That Government Will Use The FTX Fallout To Roll Out Its Own Digital Currency; ESG Movement Promotes Green And Radical Priorities Throughout Financial Sector; Nearly \$100 Billion For Ukraine So Far This Year; The Housing Market Looks Set To Implode**

BY Tucker Carlson, Vivek Ramaswamy, Ashley Strohmier, Charlie Gasparino

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RACHEL CAMPOS-DUFFY, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: From 6:00 AM to 10:00 AM. Until then, TUCKER CARLSON TONIGHT is up next.

TUCKER CARLSON, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Good evening, and welcome to TUCKER CARLSON TONIGHT.

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I hope you had a great Thanksgiving, a day away from politics and mass media with people you love and who love you back. It's really a spiritual spa treatment. That's the idea. We ought to do it more than a couple of times a year.

But we are back and now, we are in obvious observation. All prosperity in this country depends ultimately on energy. Our consumer economy runs on it. It takes energy to make things and bring them to your house. Our tech economy runs on energy, too, a lot of it. How do you think they keep their server farms running?

Energy is pretty much in fact, the key to everything that Americans do for a living. It is the key to healthcare, and agriculture, and yes, media, and travel, to construction, entertainment, even finance, which is symbiotic with the real economy depends in the end on energy, because you can't lend money to businesses if they no longer exist and if energy prices go up high enough, they don't exist.

So given how central, very obviously central energy is to everything that matters in America, it is hard to believe that the Biden administration would intentionally make energy much more expensive. Because we know for a fact having seen it repeatedly through history that high energy prices will crush our economy faster even than the COVID lockdowns did, people will become poor, some of them will die. That's not a guess, it will happen.

So given all of that, it is unimaginable that anyone but our enemies would want to raise our energy prices to the point where our economy collapses. And yet, that is exactly what the Biden administration has decided to do. And to do it, they're using twin instruments of climate policy and their war against Russia.

The effect, in a nation with the largest recoverable oil reserves on Planet Earth, many Americans can no longer afford fossil fuels. And once again, this is not an accident. It's not a natural cycle we are going through, politicians and policymakers are doing it to us on purpose.

Now that the Midterm Elections are over, the media can finally begin to cover the inevitable results of these policies. CNN, for example, just ran an article about Americans who are worried about freezing to death over the winter in America. One 63-year-old woman in Philadelphia called Charmaine Johnson said that she is torn between heating her home and buying food, and of course, she's choosing food because she has no choice. "It's miserable," she said. "It's like living in an igloo."

Another man, a 67-year-old man called Tim Wisely said he turns on his heat only when his teeth begin to chatter. "You can't go food shopping and get oil. It's one or the other," he said. "It's a horrible feeling. It's a feeling I wouldn't wish on anyone." And it's a feeling that Americans have not had in generations.

These are American citizens living in a major American city that used to be considered first world and they can't afford heat, and it is happening not just in Philadelphia, but everywhere.

Average home heating prices went up 17 percent last year, and they're up another 18 percent this year. Again, not organic. This is the result of policies from the Biden administration and its allies, not just in the Congress, but in think tanks across Washington and in the entire American news media. This did not happen by accident.

As FOX Business has reported, once winter arrive, the problem is going to get much worse.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MADISON ALWORTH, FOX BUSINESS NETWORK CORRESPONDENT: We're riding around with oil for less and they say that their customers are struggling to keep up with these skyrocketing costs.

Across the board, heating costs are expected to be high this winter. Heating oil in particular, up 68 percent year-over-year. Today, they filled up this tank with about \$950.00 worth of home heating oil. A year ago, the same amount of oil would have cost them closer to \$600. That's why the company tells me that some customers are just doing without.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: People have gone without hot water and heat for a week just because they haven't had the money to call me and say hey, come on in.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: They don't have the money for hot water or heat. Again, what country is this? Any country that can't provide hot water or heat in the winter isn't much of a country and again, it doesn't need to be this way, because we have the largest recoverable oil reserves on the planet.

What happens when energy costs continue to rise? Well, people run out of money and it doesn't take long. According to data from the Bureau of Economic Analysis, households are spending their cash reserves far faster than anyone, almost all economists projected even as credit card debt reaches historic levels. If you're borrowing money for household expenses on your credit card at exorbitant rates, you're done.

As "Business Insider" reported: "Americans have already burned through a third of their pent up savings, that's nearly three times more than previously thought and signals spending will soon slow down."

Yes, that's what happens when people run out of money. They stop spending because they don't have it and then the consumer economy slows.

So, when energy costs rise, again, just to be clear, because it's not sophisticated economics here. When they rise so does the price of everything else, and the first staple to rise in cost is the one that you have to have and that is food. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CHRISTINE ROMANS, CNN CHIEF BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT: On the menu this year for Thanksgiving, rising prices. Overall prices are up 7.7 percent from last year, and grocery prices are more than 12 percent higher than a year ago.

Here is what it means for the family grocery bill as you shop for the big day. First, the turkey. Per pound, prices for turkey are up 17 percent year-over-year, an average frozen turkey costs roughly \$2.38 a pound, that's up from \$1.74. Now, you can blame the avian flu outbreaks and higher fuel, feed, and labor costs because of inflation running near 40-year highs.

What about eggs? Eggs cost 43 percent more than a year ago. Butter and margarine are up 34 percent. Flowers up nearly 25 percent. Your pies are going to cost more to make.

These higher prices could potentially change Thanksgiving plans.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: So why is this happening? Well, you heard the reporter allude to it, but not really explain it. There are, of course many factors. But there are two big factors that are driving this, it is driving inflation

and the rising cost of everything around you. And they are in order global warming policy and the war in Ukraine.

Now, as it always does, the left use people's best instincts, compassion and care for the planet, to subvert them into supporting these two lunatic policies. If you care about people, you support the war in Ukraine; if you care about the planet, you support global warming policy.

But of course, neither one of these was about what they said it was about. Both of them were designed to spike energy costs, to increase the control of the people currently in charge and to enrich their donors.

So if you wanted to fix this, the very first thing you would do if you wanted to help the American middle class would be to force a ceasefire in Ukraine. That would help the world and it would help our middle class. Then you would encourage more domestic energy production because we have the domestic energy. Then you would take a look at the trillions we have spent on renewable energy -- solar panels, electric cars, wind power. This has made a small group of people incredibly rich, but it has put our grid in peril, and it has raised the cost of energy beyond the reach of middle class Americans.

But the Biden administration is not looking for solutions, just the opposite. They're looking for ways to squeeze a few more dollars out of an increasingly impoverished American middle class. According to Bloomberg this weekend, we are quoting, the IRS says more auditors and upgraded technology could help raise as much as \$1 trillion.

Oh, so you have less money and they plan to take more. If that's not an act of hostility, what is? It is an act of hostility. They don't like you and they're not hiding it.

But big picture, every other major company in America is laying people off, but the IRS somehow, thanks to Joe Manchin, the moderate from West Virginia, the IRS somehow has the dough to hire 87,000 new employees, and they're coming for you. They didn't hire those people by accident, they hired them to take more of your money.

So businesses who have to forecast for living have seen this coming and they're preparing to cut workers. And so what this looks like if you take three steps back is an economic death spiral.

Ahead of Christmas shopping season, when Amazon usually adds employees Amazon is now laying off employees, a lot of them -- 10,000 people laid off from Amazon, and the founder of Amazon Jeff Bezos is actually encouraging people, his customers not to buy his products. Watch this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JEFF BEZOS, FOUNDER, AMAZON: The economy does not look great right now. Things are slowing down. You're seeing layoffs in many, many sectors of the economy. People are slowing down.

The probability, say, if we're not in a recession right now, we're likely to be in one very soon.

If you're an individual, and you're thinking about buying a new, you know, large screen TV, maybe slow that down, keep that cash, see what happens. Same thing with a refrigerator or a new car, whatever. This takes some risk off the table.

If you're a small business, maybe delay some capital purchases. Do you really need that new piece of equipment? Maybe it can wait a little bit. Have some cash on hand.

Just a little bit of risk reduction could make the difference for that small business if we do get into even more serious economic problems. So, you've got to play the probabilities a little bit.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: Wait, the guy who sells big screen TVs on the internet is telling his customers the source of his personal wealth, not to buy a big screen TV off the internet. Really? That is how worried he is. He actually, for maybe the first time ever, is caring about you. That's quite amazing.

And he is not the only one, Bezos is not the only one who is worried that something bad is about to happen to our economy, the global economy. In October, the IMF warned that 2023 will bring a recession for most of the world. That same month, the CEO of JPMorgan, the country's biggest bank, Jamie Dimon, said a recession is almost certain in the coming months. So what do you do to avert a disaster? Well, you probably can't stop it, you should know what its outlines will look at. Take a look at the housing market if you want to know.

Home sales are at their lowest level in a decade. As the Fed raises interest rates to fight inflation, mortgages become too expensive, but if the Fed were to cut interest rates, home prices would go up along with inflation.

You see the problem here. We've reached the end of monetary policies' ability to tweak our economy.

So faced with all of this, the one thing you'd hope is to have an administration that understands what the problem is, and might at least be interested in fixing it, in taking care of the middle class, people who don't have a margin. People who are in the bottom, they're always the subject of our concern: What we do about the homeless?

What do you do about people who make \$80,000.00 in the New York suburbs? Nobody cares about them.

Here is Joe Biden explaining with a straight face that actually, everything is fine. his economic plan is working.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOE BIDEN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: Folks, my economic plan is showing results. People are starting to feel it. We're making progress on bringing down inflation without losing jobs.

Folks are seeing much needed break in inflation at the grocery store, as we head into the Holidays.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: So that's pathetic and everyone knows it is pathetic, and maybe the only upside of the Biden administration is that there is really no lying at this point. This isn't working. They just did better than expected in the Midterms, the Democratic Party, unfortunately, but we're now facing the next election in 2024, and no sane person wants Joe Biden to run because everybody gets that this is unsustainable, even the media gets that at this point.

So, the question is, who replaces Joe Biden? And what can that person do about the disaster that his administration has created?

Looking ahead tonight, we are honored to welcome Victor Davis Hanson, a Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution, and one of the smartest people we know.

Professor, thanks so much for joining us.

VICTOR DAVIS HANSON, SENIOR FELLOW, HOOVER INSTITUTION: Thank you.

CARLSON: So, I think it's pretty clear where we are, how we got here. What next?

HANSON: Well, unfortunately, Tucker, we had a Midterm referendum on the Biden administration, and they not only didn't articulate what they were doing, they didn't defend it. And worse yet, they didn't promise to change.

And so they look at the referendum, the Midterms, and they think, you know what? Inflation, oil prices we didn't even talk about, instead, we called our enemies semi fascists, we said they were un-American. We said, women were dying all over the country when they can't get abortions -- and that was a successful formula. So we're going to do what we did before. We're going to double down on it. We would rather be ideologically correct than worry about the American people in the middle class.

This is exactly what he promised on the campaign trail in 2020. He said he was going to eliminate fossil fuel. He just picked up the mantra from Barack Obama who said he was going to make electricity prices skyrocket, we need to shut down coal.

Steven Chu, the designate Energy Secretary in 2008. He said he wanted European high prices.

I think we've got to get acculturated to the fact that this, as you said, was deliberate. It's going to continue. And they see it as a great good. They are never subject to the consequences of their own ideology, and they feel we stupid middle class people don't know what's good for us, they do and we've got to go down this green road into oblivion.

And every once in a while, when they get close to an election, they can tap the Strategic Petroleum Reserve or they can get about half a trillion dollars, student loan amnesty, and then after the midterms are over, we'll hear about all the layoffs or the Bitcoin collapse of Mr. Bankman-Fried and then they can continue putting a little Band-Aid on the wound until the next election, but they're not going to change, unfortunately.

CARLSON: No, they're not going to change, and I think that's the key insight right there, they're not going to change. They're not. And voters didn't force them to this cycle, unfortunately,

HANSON: Everything you've articulated, Tucker, is absolutely true, but they wouldn't disagree with you. They would say yes. This is the cost of transitioning to a green future and there is going to be some damage.

It's not going to be us that will hurt, but they're not ashamed, they're not apologetic.

CARLSON: Yes. Until they ban private air travel, I'm not listening to a word they say and I mean that.

Victor Davis Hanson, great to see you tonight. Thank you so much.

HANSON: Thank you.

CARLSON: So as we've just told you, a lot of people in this country, hard to believe, but it's real, will not be able to afford to heat their homes this winter.

The CEO of a New England energy company just wrote a letter to Biden saying the power grid might not make it through either.

Eversource CEO, Joseph Nolan told Biden: "I am deeply concerned about the potentially severe impact a winter energy shortfall would have on the people and businesses of this region."

Mike Taylor owns Combined Energy Services. He joins us tonight to assess what this winter will look like with his energy crisis.

Mike, thanks so much for coming on. How -- and we've talked this before -- how are you feeling about this winter? We're at the end of November. What does it look like for the next four months?

MIKE TAYLOR, OWNER, COMBINED ENERGY SERVICES: Well, Tucker, I've been speaking with some of my suppliers and also Opus, that provides a lot of information in the industry, they're claiming that inventories are at 65 percent of the five-year average. Good news is, a refinery in Nova Scotia just reopened, Irving Oil supplies much of New England, and Paulsboro, New Jersey is backup supplying the New York Harbor.

So I think we're going to find a fine line, as I said before, with heating oil and diesel in the northeast, but my suppliers are saying, as long as we keep this La Nina warm weather pattern, I think we're going to have enough heating oil for this coming winter.

I think the bigger problem, as you said is the Biden administration. Their war against fossil fuels, we are missing five refineries in the United States. That is over a million barrels a day. They shut down when COVID hit and they have no plans of reopening, as well as apparently we have control over one in St. Croix that they can't meet clean air emissions. We've shut down a refinery in another country.

So the administration's war on fossil fuel, Tucker, is just mind blowing.

CARLSON: So, there is such demand for fossil fuels, for diesel, kerosene, heating oil, jet fuel, gasoline, of course. How could five and six including St. Croix refineries be closed? I don't understand that.

TAYLOR: Well, I'm assuming it's the demonization of fossil fuels and these institutions, no longer allowing reinvestment in them. But I look back at the agenda to put us on electric.

So Tucker, I was at a panel discussion in Albany, New York of the Empire Center this past spring. The National Grid had a presenter there, a large electric and natural gas utility in the northeast. Their representative said on winters -- on the coldest day in winter, they put out four to five times as much energy with natural gas than electric does on its hottest day in summer.

So somehow, up here in the Northeast New York, we're going to eliminate all the natural gas, heating oil, propane, and we expect the grid to pick this up. I just can't imagine how this is going to work, and they've also said electric rates are up 65 percent this season. Where do we think this is going to take us?

CARLSON: Well, it is insane and natural gas is far cleaner than renewables. It's far cleaner all in than solar or wind.

I mean, it's, it's lunacy, and I appreciate you pointing that out, every time. Mike Taylor, thank you.

TAYLOR: You've got it. Thanks for having me, Tucker.

CARLSON: So, the cryptocurrency exchange, FTX, blew up in spectacular fashion. It looks like fraud. But in the wake of that, rather than thinking through like why did regulators let this happen? There's a new effort underway to regulate every single financial transaction that occurs in this country through something called the Central Bank Digital Currencies CBDC.

If that happens, we're done. They can control you with a flick of a switch. So you should know what they're planning and how we might be able to stop it, that's all straight ahead.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: The cryptocurrency exchange, FTX blew up a couple of weeks ago. It looks like one of the biggest, maybe the single biggest financial scam in history, and you have to wonder, how was this allowed?

So the head of the company was all over the media in a number of interviews. He was wearing shorts and playing video games. Why didn't nobody notice and where were the regulators? Where was Gary Gensler? Well, they were apparently giving this guy a pass because they knew him or they agreed with his politics. So, they're not being punished for what they allowed to happen. Thousands of people defrauded out of their life savings.

Instead, they're using the collapse of FTX to their own advantage to push for something called Central Bank Digital Currency -- CBDC. Now what is Central Bank Digital Currency? Well, that is where all financial transactions are effectively controlled by the Central Bank, really by the government.

And as we saw in Canada last winter, if they don't like what you're doing, they can zero out your savings with a keystroke. So, you have no autonomy whatsoever. You are completely under the control of the people in charge, who by the way, may hate you.

So this appears to be coming in this country. Several banks have announced already that they're working with the Fed to implement a CBDC. Once again, if this happens, we're done. No more political debate. We will have unprecedented levels of regulation, of surveillance, and of control.

It is effectively Chinese social credit scores come to America.

Russell Brand recently explained all of this in a clip of the new Prime Minister of the UK, Rishi Sunak boosting a CBDC for England. Watch this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

RUSSELL BRAND, ACTOR: . is a keen advocate of CBDCs, Central Bank Digital Currencies. Here he is in fact advocating for them.

RISHI SUNAK, BRITISH PRIME MINISTER: Today, I'm proud to say that under the UK's presidency, the group of the world's seventh most advanced economies, the G7 is launching a set of public policy principles for retail Central Bank Digital Currencies, CBDCs.

Central Bank Digital Currencies could be a digital version of money, a bit like a digital bank note.

BRAND: I like it. Because actually, we've got a broad concept.

What if this person is an idiot? Which we think that they are, it's like a digital penny for your digital money box for your digital [bleep] that you live in. You will own nothing. You will be happy.

SUNAK: It could be used alongside physical notes and coins.

BRAND: For now. Until we phase them out. If you start any little trucker protest, oh, where has money gone? The digital piggy bank is broken, I'm afraid. Stop being a bit more cooperative.

SUNAK: Unlike most of the digital money people use daily today, it would be issued directly by a Central Bank, like the Bank of England in the UK.

BRAND: Ah, it is good, a Central Bank, nothing wrong with centralized authorities, centralized power, globalist decrees coming down from on high avoiding democracy. That's exactly what we want. Keep talking.

SUNAK: And governments and Central Banks across the world are working together.

BRAND: Really, they're working together. Well, that's just such great news. The IMF, the World Bank -- why don't we involve the WEF and the WHO.

What we need are unelected global bodies that have been able to coopt political power, respond to financial power, and ignore and oppress ordinary people. Whether it is the recent medical emergency or the cost of living crisis, we're seeing the benefits all around us.

I can't wait for your next policy. You're going to take our money now. This is great.

SUNAK: Looking into what having a digital currency might mean in practice.

BRAND: I think I know what it means in practice, more power for you, no power for us.

SUNAK: This includes issues that people care about, such as ensuring users' money would be safe and secure, that it could work with other ways to pay, it would be energy efficient.

BRAND: It's got to be energy efficient. I was about to say, is it energy efficient? Is it energy efficient? I've got to make sure.

Oh, a few other questions. You wouldn't use these ever, would you to implement control or to advance social credit type systems, or to shut down the bank accounts of people you disagree with or to surveil people and have a surveillance network that you've developed in conjunction with Big Tech, and now a financial arm that you're developing so that you can lock step together and gridlock us in a digital prison of surveillance tyranny?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: Answer to those questions. Oh, yes.

Vivek Ramaswamy is one of the smartest people we ever talk to, author of "Nation of Victims" joins us tonight to assess.

So Vivek, thanks for coming on. So here you have regulators in the United States failing in the most obvious possible way to rein in this cryptocurrency exchange, and then in the wake of that they're not punished, but they've decided they're going to use it to get more power for themselves. Am I misreading what's happening here?

VIVEK RAMASWAMY, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CONTRIBUTOR: I think you're reading it correctly. As the expression goes, never let a good crisis go to waste.

Now, I think these CBDCs here in the US are a really bad idea, Tucker, for a few reasons, but it is worth knowing the reason that economists supposedly support it, right?

So the main argument is, they say that actually China is doing it, and the US will be less competitive, and that the dollar would be less strong if the US fails to keep up. There are so many things wrong with that argument, but the first and most obvious is that that's a good path to get us to be more like China, which is not a good way for the US to go in terms of being a surveillance state.

And actually, it's exactly for that reason that if you think about it, the US could actually have a stronger dollar if it does not jump onto the CBDC bandwagon, because people might want to actually hold a currency that doesn't allow them to be the subject of surveillance and control.

So, you could make the argument equally in reverse about the supposed strong dollar that we're going to miss out on without the CBDCs. And this is, of course, against the backdrop that you know well, Tucker, which is the fetishization of the strong dollar as supposedly a good end all be all anyway, that actually hurts American manufacturers. And there's a very good reason why China has artificially tried to depress its currency to have a weaker yuan.

So on many levels, the argument fails.

CARLSON: This is not an investment show, but since you're very fluent in this language and knowledgeable, what will this do to gold prices? I mean, if they get close to this, a lot of people just going to try to opt out of the system, correct?

RAMASWAMY: I would think that it has a big effect, a positive effect on gold prices. Markets have been a little bit weird in the last year where gold certainly hasn't gone up as you might have actually otherwise predicted to in normal times.

But against that backdrop, though, when ultimately all forms of paper become meaningless and actually go into digital currencies that could be means of governments effectuating control, that might be the last stand for actually gold finally having the last laugh at the end of the day.

But more importantly, Tucker is we should not see this great reset. This dissolution of boundaries between the public and private sector between different nations ultimately create this new world order and CBDCs, mark, my words are just the symptom of that deeper cancer.

CARLSON: Well, that is exactly right. So nicely put.

Vivek, it is great to see you tonight. Thank you so much.

RAMASWAMY: Thank you.

CARLSON: So they've been telling you that the problem is you're keeping too much money that's why we need 87,000 new IRS agents, again, thank you, Joe Manchin. But at the same time, they are sending tens of billions of dollars to Ukraine's beggar king, a thug in a tracksuit constantly demanding money. It's completely over the top.

And so we decided to put together a video montage of some of Zelenskyy's most recent demands, not requests, demands. That's next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

ASHLEY STROHMIER, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT: Welcome to "FOX News Live." I'm Ashley Strohmier in New York.

We are learning more about the motive behind this week's deadly shooting in a Walmart in Chesapeake, Virginia. Police now say the gunman who was a store manager left a note on his phone accusing coworkers of mocking him. Police say the handgun used in Tuesday night's shooting was legally purchased the same day.

The gunman killed six people, then died from an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound.

A US patrol base in Northeast Syria has been targeted by two rockets. US Central Command says no one was hurt and the base was not damaged. Syrian Democratic Forces who visited the rocket origin site found a third unfired rocket. US forces first deployed to Syria during the Obama administration's campaign against ISIS. There are currently about 900 US troops there.

I'm Ashley Strohmier. Now, back to TUCKER CARLSON TONIGHT.

For all of your headlines log on to FOXNews.com.

CARLSON: ESG stands for environmental, social and governance, in other words doesn't really mean anything, but it means everything. It's a business version of a Chinese social credit score. It's a way for the left to control companies and make certain that all the money, all the investments go to causes they believe in.

Well, the effects of this, not surprisingly have been a complete disaster. Countries with high ESG scores like Sri Lanka and Ghana are collapsing, but the Biden administration still sees those countries as a model for us. They've decided to transform our economy with ESG.

This is what happens when all decisions are made through a political/ideological lens. That works great in Sociology class. It doesn't work very well if you're running a country, but it is the reason the Biden administration is pushing so called renewables and electric cars, which increase our reliance on China. China makes the solar panels in the wind turbines of the world. They also control most of the materials needed to make batteries for those electric cars.

Michael Shellenberger is one of the few people who sees the big picture here and the details. He is the author of "Apocalypse Never." He joins us tonight.

Michael Shellenberger, thanks so much for coming on.

So that the rest of us just sort of notice that groceries are a lot more expensive and gas is up and heating oil is obtainable. You see, I think, what's really going on. This is a much bigger movement, really, that's been thought through.

MICHAEL SHELLENBERGER, AUTHOR, "APOCALYPSE NEVER": Well, that's right. It's good to be with you, Tucker. And I mean, the evidence is in. We've been experimenting now with renewables for a couple of decades. You know, China controls 90 percent of the market for rare earths, and wind, solar and batteries require 700 percent more rare earths than conventional fuels.

So moving towards wind, solar, and batteries is a recipe for making ourselves dependent on Chinese energy when we are rich in natural gas and oil. Our natural gas actually reduced the price of energy over the last two decades, have reduced our carbon emissions.

Natural gas is a blessing that President Biden is boasting about shutting down. You may remember that right before the election, he shouted, "No more drilling" at a New York rally.

So yes, this is an effort to enrich a small number of global elites at the expense of the American people. And in terms of the ESG, the criteria of environment, social governance, nothing is worse than solar panels made in China. They're made by enslaved Uighur Muslims, they make electricity in the United States expensive and they make us dependent on China.

CARLSON: Once you say it that way, you realize that they don't have arguments, they only have force and that's why they have to call you with denier suggesting that you're immoral and crazy, because they don't have anything to say to that as you as you know, because you live it.

Michael Shellenberger, as always, a voice of wisdom. I appreciate it.

SHELLENBERGER: Good to be with you.

CARLSON: So the ESG/global warming agenda is part of the reason our economy is tanking. The other part is Ukraine. We are pushing, in fact engaging in a hot war with Russia at this moment, which has upended energy prices around the world and it is getting worse.

The US Congress has somehow earmarked more than \$90 billion to Ukraine just this year. That's double what we spent annually in Afghanistan. That's far more than Russia's entire annual military budget. But it is still not enough for the President of Ukraine Zelenskyy.

He doesn't ask the US Congress for money, he demands it. Here he is over the last three months. Watch this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

VOLODYMYR ZELENSKYY, UKRAINIAN PRESIDENT (through translator): We absolutely need the United States to show leadership and give Ukraine the air defense system.

But believe me, it's not even nearly enough to cover the civilian infrastructure -- schools, hospitals, universities, homes of Ukrainians.

ZELENSKYY: We have two key financial needs of the country. That's \$38 billion to make up for the deficit of our budget for next year, another \$17 billion that were verified by the World Bank needed to rebuild the critical infrastructure.

ZELENSKYY (through translator): We would really like for the support, especially that amount of support to stay the same. And to have this joint support from the US society, and above all US taxpayers. Because at the end of the day, this is not the money of the government, but the money of the people.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: Do you know that guy? Who is that guy? He is some Ukrainian corrupt strongman, really? And he is demanding money from us. The gall of that guy. Where does he get off?

L. Todd Wood is the founder of CD Media and former Special Operations pilot. He joins us tonight.

Todd, thanks so much for coming on. So the question to Zelenskyy is, where does he get this attitude? He's not a supplicant. He is someone who is demanding the US Congress to fund his government, not just his war, but the salaries of his bureaucrats. Like where does he get this attitude?

L. TODD WOOD, FOUNDER OF CD MEDIA AND FORMER SPECIAL OPERATIONS PILOT: Look, Zelenskyy was brought to power by an oligarch named Igor Kolomoisky, which he recently went after and targeted for persecution in Ukraine. So that tells me something that Zelenskyy now has a bigger and more important and more powerful and more rich benefactor, and that being the Biden administration, the World Economic Forum, and the cabal that is pushing all of this agenda on the United States.

So Zelenskyy is not working for the people of Ukraine. They are suffering massively. You know, we have had a team on the ground for since Maidan in 2014, and we're being told now for months, they're saying, "Where's all this aid that is supposed to be coming here? We're not seeing anything." We're having teams having to go into Poland with our own funds and buy food for the people, buy medical supplies.

A large percentage of the Ukrainian population right now has no water or electricity or heat going into the winter -- think about that -- and a lot of them these high rise, you know, Soviet-built buildings. So, it's really a disaster. Zelenskyy is working for a bigger agenda, not for the Ukrainian people, that's for sure.

CARLSON: So \$90 billion, there has been no audit of where that money went. Democrats in the Congress are fighting an audit. Why wouldn't they want to know?

WOOD: Well, because approximately -- you know, you've got to realize this is the varsity team of money launderers in Ukraine. We're estimating that only 30 percent of the supplies and military aid is actually getting to where it needs to supposed to go.

There has been evidence, which we talked about on your show, recently the plane crash in Greece, where arms are being shipped overseas. And so this money is not getting where it's supposed to go.

A lot of this money is going to offshore, and you know, we're talking about homes. You know, there are credible reports that a lot of these Ukrainian officials have bought property offshore. They don't want peace, they want the money train to continue for the defense contractors in the US, and I'm fascinated and see what is going to happen when the House gets taken over by the GOP and hopefully this money train stops. So, we'll see.

CARLSON: I hope so. And then you see decent, reasonable conservative people, nice people like Joni Ernst backing this. I mean, a lot of Republicans need to wake up and understand they've been had in a very profound way.

L. Todd Wood, I appreciate you coming on tonight. Thank you so much.

WOOD: Thank you.

CARLSON: So homeownership is obviously the key to the American Dream. You own your little piece of the country, unfortunately, it is now out of reach for a lot of people. The number of home sales has not been this low since Lehman Brothers collapsed. So what is happening to housing markets? We should probably know, we'll find out next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: So if you're running the Fed, the two things you're afraid, of course are inflation and slower growth and they are on opposite sides. We now have inflation, so the Fed is raising rates. And as a result, getting a mortgage is now very difficult for a lot of people, impossible for some, for millions of Americans and the housing market looks like it's about to melt down.

Grown men who are on the verge of moving out will be living with their parents for years to come if this continues. So, it's a real problem. The question is how do you fix it?

Charlie Gasparino covers this stuff and much more. He is a senior correspondent at FOX Business, covered the business world for many decades, joins us tonight. Charlie, thanks for coming on.

CHARLIE GASPARINO, FOX BUSINESS NETWORK SENIOR CORRESPONDENT: Anytime, Tucker.

CARLSON: So, what do you do about this?

GASPARINO: You know I think the only thing left to do right now is what the Fed is doing and it created a bubble in all sorts of risky assets from crypto, as you know, crypto was imploding to meme stocks, and housing was one of those assets that it helped propel to even, you know, greater heights.

And this is kind of what happened during the 2008 financial crisis. I don't think the banks are impaired as they were back then. But, you know, banks lent out money because money was free, and it was free created by the Fed and amid all of this, you have, you know, listen, housing prices went up dramatically. I know, housing prices went up a hundred percent in certain areas of the South -- South Carolina, Florida.

CARLSON: Yes.

GASPARINO: Now there's a logic to that. These are lower tax places that people from New York were moving to, but also there was a speculation level here that hasn't been seen before, that has to come -- that has to pop and it has to -- that froth has to go away.

But what I think is going to make it even worse, when this thing, you know, continues to unravel, is the fact that you don't have a lot of natural buyers from grown men who are living with their mother. I mean, you know, it's a meme that people talk about.

You know, you live with your mom, and you know in Italy -- I have family in Italy, they call them mammoni, these older guys living with their mom into the 30s and 40s. But it's real, and it has an economic impact, and you'll see it with housing.

CARLSON: So is there any -- I mean -- so but on the other side, you've got inflation, which everyone's afraid of, for very good reason. So what -- I mean, what do you do? You don't want mean stocks to blow up, but you want housing to stay reasonable, but not tank, like it's tough.

GASPARINO: It's a tough -- it's a balancing act, and it is all done by the Fed and, you know, they dug us into this hole where there are pockets of speculative bubbles. And, yes, meme stocks are one of those. Crypto is one of those -- as we know, they are collapsing as we speak here. And in certain pockets of the country, so is housing. I mean, you know, like I said, it was -- there was a rush to buy houses in all of these places fueled by the pandemic, fueled by restrictions in the Northeast and in California, but also fueled by the Fed.

And the only way to get rid of that is pain and the pain is going to be lower housing prices and people's net worth is going down unfortunately, for a while until this thing gets sorted out.

CARLSON: It would be nice to have an economy that was driven by productivity and not money printing, ideally.

GASPARINO: That is -- you would think that we would have learned that from the financial crisis where everything was built on financial engineering and you know, derivatives, but no, and here we are again.

CARLSON: And here we are again, and you're getting to cover both. Charlie Gasparino, thank you so much for that.

GASPARINO: Anytime.

CARLSON: Good to see you.

The State of Texas has one of the biggest natural gas reserves on the planet and yet somehow last year, the State of Texas ran out of energy. Why did that happen exactly? Too little time has been spent ruminating on that.

While leaders in Texas relied on so-called renewables like windmills, which sound great, certainly fashionable, but all your friends think it's cool, but they don't really work during wind storms, for example, and in Texas, they failed and people died as a result.

So for an episode of our documentary series, we went to Texas to see what this problem looked like firsthand. Here's part of what we found.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: With no chance of being approved near Malibu or Greenwich or in the mountains of Aspen, the development invariably happens in poorer parts of the country. The number one place for wind farms is Texas, but the question is, what happens when the turbine stops spinning?

KYLE ROTHENBERG, TUCKER CARLSON ORIGINALS: We're in the middle of nowhere in Texas. We're trying to find a place just asleep tonight. Everything is sold out. There's nothing.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: It's now expected to be the biggest insurance claim event in Texas history. This winter storm totally overwhelmed the power system in Texas.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: And I can tell you this morning, nearly 4.2 million Texans still have no electricity.

CARLSON: Texas has the most wind power capacity in the United States, but the Texas turbines, which are not winterized iced up during a cold weather events in February of 2021. Electricity output collapsed.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Texas regulators ordered rolling blackouts Monday as an arctic blast has frozen wind turbines.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: There is no water in the tap.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: You have all this Federal and State subsidies for wind and solar that have caused an overbuilding of wind and solar in Texas. It's cheap energy. Big companies love it. They love to virtue signal with it because they say, hey, look at us, we're zero carbon, right? And what they really like of course, is that really cheap wind energy.

What they're not paying for though is the reliability of the grid. The Texas grid like the California grid is becoming increasingly unreliable and difficult to maintain -- difficult to keep that power in a steady basis.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: This 20-year old turbine is leaking oil. It doesn't look too green to me.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: That episode is called "Blown Away: The People vs. Wind Power. You can stream it right now on FOX Nation.

We'll be back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: So that's our day after Thanksgiving show. We love seeing you, of course, we can't actually see you, but we can imagine you and we're glad you have tuned in. We will be back Monday.

Have the happiest weekend with the ones you love.

See you then.

END

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HD DHS Fires Back As McCarthy Demands Mayorkas Resign; DHS Secretary Faces Calls To Resign Amid Border Crisis; Biden Border Policies Under Fire From GOP, Dems; Russia Pummels Power Grid, Ramps Up Strikes; Ukrainian Cities Face New Wave Of Russian Attacks; Ukraine M.P.: Pushing Hard To Get Territories Back; Report: Ex-FTX CEO "Deeply Sorry" For Crypto Crash; Report: Former CEO Says "Still A Chance" To Save FTX; FTX Collapse Draws Comparisons To Madoff Scheme; Survey: Cost Of Thanksgiving Up 20% VS 2021; Americans Struggle With Inflation For The Holidays; Idaho Police Still Without Suspect; 7 Dead In Virginia Walmart Shooting, Including Gunman

BY Trace Gallagher, Bill Melugin, Juan Williams, Greg Palkot, Edward Lawrence, Charlie Gasparino, Grady Trimble, Robert Wolf, Max Gordon, Dan Springer, Griff Jenkins

WC 7,981 words

PD 23 November 2022

SN Fox News Channel: The Story with Martha MacCallum

SC HUNDD

LA English

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LP

TRACE GALLAGHER, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST (on camera): And good afternoon, everybody. I'm Trace Gallagher in for Martha MacCallum. Soon, a live update from Idaho police on that gruesome quadruple murder. And what they're now saying about the possibility that one of the victims had a stalker, but first, the Department of Homeland Security responding to an ultimatum from the top House Republican. Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy with this warning about what will happen when the GOP takes control in January. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

TD

REP. KEVIN MCCARTHY (R-CA): I am calling on the Secretary to resign. The Secretary Mayorkas does not resign, House Republicans will investigate every order, every action, and every failure will determine whether we can begin impeachment inquiry.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GALLAGHER: DHS tells Fox, Mayorkas has no plans to resign and "members of Congress" can do better than point the finger at someone else. They should come to the table and work on solutions for our broken, broken system and outdated laws which have not been overhauled in more than 40 years. Mercedes Schlapp and Juan Williams in a moment. But first, to the National Correspondent Bill Melugin, he's live at the border in El Paso, Texas. Bill, good afternoon.

BILL MELUGIN, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT: Trace, good afternoon to you as this border crisis continues, we continue to see both bizarre and dangerous methods of human smuggling some new incidents we'd like to show your view are starting with this. Take a look at this photo right here at a border patrol's Tucson, Arizona second where agents stopped a U haul work truck, they open it up and they find 14 illegal immigrants all dressed in camouflage being smuggled inside of it. That truck was padlock shut so these people had no way of getting out.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MELUGIN (voiceover): A 37-year-old U.S. citizen was driving that truck, she was arrested and charged with human smuggling, then we'll take you down to the Rio Grande Valley. Take a look at these photos. A Border Patrol stopping a utility work vehicle inside of that they find seven illegal immigrants being smuggled in the back of that work truck. That was in Kingsville, Texas.

Then, take a look at this video. Also, out of Texas this is in LaSalle County. Texas DPS pulling over a human smuggler once that smuggler stops the vehicle, five illegal immigrants go bailing out of the vehicle.

That was a U.S. citizen, she was arrested and charged. She had a warrant out for her arrest. She told investigators she was paid more than \$3,000 per person for that smuggling.

Lastly, take a look at these mug shots right here. Border Patrol in Del Rio sector reporting on Monday in a two-hour span, they arrested two sex offenders in two separate groups. They've actually arrested six sex offenders in that sector in the last week alone. And back out here live that Del Rio sector incredibly busy over the last week alone.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MELUGIN (on camera): They say, they've had more than 10,300 illegal crossings and nearly 6000 known got-aways, big numbers for one sector in one single week. We'll send it back to you.

GALLAGHER: And we're going to take a closer at those numbers as the show goes. Bill Melugin, live for us in the border. Bill, thank you. Let's bring in Mercedes Schlapp, Former Senior Adviser to President Trump, now a CPAC Foundation Senior Fellow; and Juan Williams, a Fox News Political Analyst. Welcome to you both.

Juan, I don't know how you can look at the pictures that Bill Melugin is showing us with dozens and dozens of people stuffed into the back of trucks, and then locked from the outside and not believe there is a legitimate and severe problem at the border. And yet, the DHS is literally telling Republicans to stop pointing fingers, and to do something about it. And you know, who's out -- who else is pointing fingers, Juan? Democrats. Listen to Governor-elect, Katie Hobbs , from Arizona.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KATIE HOBBS (D), ARIZONA GOVERNOR-ELECT: I don't think they're doing enough. I would love to have them visit and see firsthand the kind of support and relief that folks in these communities need from the federal government.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GALLAGHER: Juan, your thoughts?

JUAN WILLIAMS, FOX NEWS CHANNEL POLITICAL ANALYST: Well, I think that Senator Mark Kelly said yesterday, you know, Democrats need to do more and Katie Hobbs is repeating their thing. He also said Republicans need to stop beating up on this issue and resolve it, do something. And that's what you heard in the statement that you read, Trace, from Secretary Mayorkas' office and Department of Homeland Security . It's not that anyone's saying there's not a problem, there's a tremendous.

GALLAGHER: Everybody's saying they're not a problem, that's not a fair assessment. People are saying that's not a problem.

WILLIAMS: No, that's not true.

GALLAGHER: You have the DHS Secretary going before Congress time and time and time again, saying the border is secure. If that's not saying there's not a problem, I don't know what is. And I just want to say that --

WILLIAMS: Excuse, that's not saying that, no it's not.

GALLAGHER: Let me just say one thing.

WILLIAMS: Wait, wait, wait -- you are misinterpreting this, Trace, because the Secretary saying we have a record number of apprehensions right now. So, obviously, you this border police, this customs force, they are doing their job, they are arresting people in record numbers, Trace. The argument here is about what to do.

GALLAGHER: Juan, they are, they are --

WILLIAMS: And when you see McCarthy go down there --

GALLAGHER: Record numbers coming. I had been covering the border for 35 years, it was my first job in television.

WILLIAMS: Exactly.

GALLAGHER: And I know exactly the problem, it's been going on for a long time. And Mercedes, I'll let you jump in on this.

WILLIAMS: There you go.

GALLAGHER: But to say, to say that people are not getting in this country in record numbers and they are, and walking across the border being stuffed into truck is disingenuous.

WILLIAMS: But Trace, that's not, that's not us.

GALLAGHER: That is the problem.

WILLIAMS: Trace, that's not what anyone is saying.

GALLAGHER: And the Republicans have put --

WILLIAMS: Oh my gosh. Trace, no one's saying that.

MERCEDES SCHLAPP, FORMER SENIOR ADVISER TO PRESIDENT TRUMP: Well, you know --

WILLIAMS: What we're saying is there's a new, there's a new stream of people coming from Nicaragua, Cuba, Venezuela, there's all new issues.

GALLAGHER: It doesn't matter where they're coming from, Juan, it's the border itself, which is unsecured. Go ahead, Mercedes.

SCHLAPP: Now, it's fine, Trace, I think I'm going to become the moderator now, you're doing such a great job. But look, it's not just a problem. It is a humanitarian crisis. We're talking about human lives. And the mere fact is, is that we know that President Biden and the Democrats have done nothing to stop this border crisis.

Instead, it's created a magnet, the policies that the Biden administration has put in place, the policies that they've taken away, like Remain in Mexico, for example, where they in essence, are calling folks to come into the country that has created record number of individuals coming into the country where there is catch and release and people are being able to go into the, the interior of this nation without any sort of control.

This has been caused by the Democrats. This border security issue should be a bipartisan issue. And sadly, the Democrats have failed to protect our borders and the essence --

GALLAGHER: I just want to put these numbers up, if I can, Mercedes.

SCHLAPP: -- create human trafficking issues and fentanyl issues.

GALLAGHER: I want to put in, and exactly to your point, there look at these numbers. This is the encounters. You look at that two million plus encounters. The got-aways are not even included in that. And then you look at the fentanyl drug seizures -- roll over to the next one -- and you've got 14,000, 14.7 thousand pounds of fentanyl, that's enough to kill everyone in the country. That's 30 40 percent higher than last year. It is a major problem.

And I'll give you 10 seconds to wrap it up, Juan, and I hate to be, be, you know, jumping your thing there. But the Republicans have said over and over again, we need to secure the border, we need to keep building the border wall. We need to reinforce the number of border patrol agents down there. There had been solutions coming and Joe Biden has never been to the border and Kamala Harris has done zero down at the border. Your final thoughts?

WILLIAMS: Well, I mean, what's McCarthy doing down there? He's really running to be Speaker and he doesn't have the vote. So, he's putting on performance political art. He's not solving anything. He's not saying, yes, I have an idea. There were proposals in under Bush, under Trump, under Obama and who blocked it? It was Republicans, freedom caucus --

SCHLAPP: And the Democrats. No --

WILLIAMS: Never satisfied. Never satisfied,

SCHLAPP: The Democrats, I was there in the White House -- No, Juan, Juan, I'm sorry.

GALLAGHER: They're giving me, they're giving me the wrap. Go ahead, Mercedes, five seconds.

SCHLAPP: I'm just going to say one thing. I was there during the Trump administration. We tried to work on various deals with the Democrats. They refuse to come to the table. They don't want to solve this border crisis, in fact, they're making it.

WILLIAMS: Oh my gosh.

GALLAGHER: Juan, Mercedes, thank you both. Just one week after a court overturned Georgia's ban on abortion after about six weeks of pregnancy, the State Supreme Court has put it back on the books. The justices putting the lower court's ruling on hold while they consider an appeal. So, this is not the end of the legal battle. But for now, the ban on abortions in Georgia after a heartbeat is detected, is back in effects.

Meantime, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy blasting Russia today as dozens of rockets pound Ukraine hitting civilian targets including the maternity ward of a hospital killing a newborn baby. A member of parliament currently, currently in Ukraine will join us after this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

VOLODYMYR ZELENSKY, PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE (through translation): We will go through this because we are an unbreakable nation.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

GALLAGHER: Well, the "worst winter" since World War II is what Ukraine's capital city, Kyiv, is prepping for. Russia is now pummeling the country's power grid leaving millions without heat and electricity as missile attacks like this one in southeastern Ukraine continue. One of the victims, a newborn baby, according to the mayor there. Our senior affair, foreign affairs correspondent, Greg Palkot is live for us in Kyiv with more. Greg.

GREG PALKOT, FOX NEWS CHANNEL FOREIGN AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT: Hey, Trace, yes, Kyiv and the rest of the cities across this country are in a cold dark tonight, thanks to yet another mass attack against Ukraine by Russia. According to officials here, some 70 Russian missiles were launched, around 50 were shot down but the rest got through, hitting power stations, the electric grid, plus residential sites. Take a look at what we saw on the north side of Kyiv earlier.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

PALKOT (voiceover): Smoke still rising from the roof of this residential building behind us, another result of another Russian missile attack. Police on the ground here trying to figure it out.

The missile was apparently targeting a nearby power facility that either one off course or was intercepted and fragments rain down. Whatever, the building was ripped open, a fire triggered: four killed, 27 hurt.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: It's a horrible thing that this happens in the 21st century.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I can't put it into words. Putin is from hell.

PALKOT: Now, yes, in the southern part of the country, Trace, a maternity hospital was struck, killing a 2-day-old baby boy, injuring his mother who was right alongside him.

Just about all the major cities, as we speak, are desperately trying to restore power, heat, and communications.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PALKOT (on camera): And one more danger, Trace. Four nuclear plants in this country had to be taken off line. There were concerns that power disruptions might compromise the safety. Dangers all around.

Back to you.

GALLAGHER: Yes. Back to you as the news breaks. Greg Palkot, live for us and Kyiv. Greg, thank you.

Joining us now live from Kyiv is Kira Rudik, a member of the Ukrainian parliament. Kira, thank you so much for coming on. You have Greg describing what's going on there. I've been following you on Twitter, describing what is happening there.

Give us an idea of what the energy situation looks like. And is this -- is this going to hurt any type of future negotiations or current negotiations with Russia?

KIRA RUDIK, MEMBER, UKRAINIAN PARLIAMENT: Hello, Trace. Thank you so much for having me.

Well, just a heads up, I'm on running diesel generator. So, without it, I wouldn't be able to join you today, because we don't have Internet and we do not have electricity. And we do not have running water.

But if Putin thought that being without heat, electricity, and water, would break us, or make us negotiate with him, he did not learn anything about us for the last eight months.

So, we are coping, we are supporting each other and making sure that we will be as ready to the upcoming winter as possible in the current situation.

People are taking more and more responsibility for themselves. And for the people around them. Gathering necessary equipment, gathering generator's fuel, food, water.

Water right now is particularly important because we do not know when the running water will be restored.

Today is a very important day, however, because European Parliament has acknowledged Russia state sponsor of terrorism. And right 30 minutes after that there were 70 missiles going onto our cities, onto the energy infrastructure, onto the residential building.

When Russia was confirming that they are indeed terrorists.

GALLAGHER: Yes.

RUDIK: And they are acting as ones.

(CROSSTALK)

GALLAGHER: And I wonder, Kira --

RUDIK: So, we are --

GALLAGHER: I just wonder, and I'm sorry to break in, we have a little bit of a delay set up here. I'm just wondering, I know this European Parliament declaration is really symbolic because there is no power from them.

But does it think -- do you think that it helps to maybe push this toward some negotiation down the line? I know that that Ukraine is still kind of going in trying to take back territory, they're asking for help from the United States in doing that. So, where do you think we've lie in the next couple of weeks in this war, moving into month 10?

RUDIK: We will be pushing hard and getting back our territories. When we are talking about any negotiations, the question that I'm asking is who or what? We'll make sure that Putin will keep his part of the bargain.

I do not think that there is a leader in the democratic world or any organization that could help us make sure of that. And what we owe to our children is that they would not have to fight this war in five, 10, 20 years.

We need to make sure that we push the aggressor back and that we will live peacefully, and that we will be rebuilding our country.

What we have seen is that it's Russian strategy to act as a terrorist. And you remember what all the democratic countries do not do with terrorists. They do not negotiate with terrorists. They fight them. And they are standing for themselves, and this is what we are doing. We are standing for ourselves. We are standing for our country no matter how hard it is.

GALLAGHER: Sure. Yes, it is hard. Kira, listen, the best to you. We hope the energy comes back on. Thank you for joining us. We'll check back in with you and those who want more information should follow you on Twitter as well. Thank you so much.

RUDIK: Thank you and glory to Ukraine.

GALLAGHER: Yes.

Meantime, a new apology from the so-called crypto whiz kid who was living large in a Bahamas penthouse during the colossal collapse of his now- bankrupt exchange.

Charlie Gasparino after this.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

GALLAGHER: While the former CEO, whose crypto collapse may have cost his clients billions of dollars reportedly says he's deeply sorry. CoinDesk reports that Sam Bankman-Fried sent a letter to his former staffers writing, quoting here, "I didn't mean for any of this to happen, and I would give anything to be able to go back and do things over again.

You were my family. I've lost that, and our old home is an empty warehouse of monitors. When it turned around -- when I turned around, there is no one left to talk to."

Here is a look at that FTX warehouse in the Bahamas last year. SBF tweeted, this photo of himself, sleeping on beanbags in the office. Of course, he also had a luxury penthouse nearby.

A lawyer says FTX spent \$300 million on homes for top staffers and most of the company's assets are now missing or stolen.

GALLAGHER (on camera): SBF reportedly telling his former staffers maybe there is still a chance to save the company. Fox Business senior correspondent Charlie Gasparino is standing by. First, to Fox Business correspondent Edward Lawrence. He is live for us in Washington.

Edward, good afternoon.

EDWARD LAWRENCE, FOX BUSINESS NETWORK CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Good afternoon, Trace. And in that letter, he says that he froze in the face of pressure and leaks. Now, the house of cards fell leaving at least a billion dollars missing and tens of billions of dollars misused.

Now, in court, a lawyer for FTX said that the money is either missing or stolen. Now, we learned that Sam Bankman-Fried use \$300 million for real estate for himself, his family, and other senior staff at FTX.

\$10 billion of money from FTX customers was taken and used to prop-up Bankman-Fried's hedge fund, Alameda Research . That left FTX without the ability to handle customer withdrawals?

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MARK MAHANEY, SENIOR MANAGING DIRECTOR, EVERCORE ISI: It just seems to me like this is just another mania. And, you know, we have these in the market from time to time. And this time, it's crypto.

So, we think it's very unfortunate what happened. It also seems that there's a fair amount of malfeasance involved too. I just hope we just move beyond this quickly, learn the lesson.

LAWRENCE: Now, a forensic accountants that I talked with, say this case has close similarities to the Bernie Madoff Ponzi scheme. There was almost no oversight, everything funneled through one person, and a massive lack of internal controls.

Experts say this is another warning about investing in things not fully understood.

MATTHEW WHITAKER, FORMER ACTING UNITED STATES ATTORNEY GENERAL: You can see the failures looking in the rearview mirror. But I think anybody that would have invested in this on the front end should have asked some very pointed questions about really just corporate governance and control.

And anytime you're dealing with something that's offshore, obviously, that heightens the concern.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

LAWRENCE (on camera): The top 50 creditors are still owed about \$3 billion. The SEC and New York state prosecutor's office are looking into this collapse. Trace.

GALLAGHER: Edward Lawrence live for us in D.C. Edward, thank you.

Let's bring in Fox Business senior correspondent Charlie Gasparino. Charlie, I want to get to more of that letter, if I can, in a little bit.

But first, at a bankruptcy hearing, FTX attorney James Bromley said the following here, quoting, "FTX was in the control of inexperienced and unsophisticated individuals, and some or all of them were compromised individuals."

Almost like, you know, what if SBF just had a couple of more years under his belt, man, none of this ever would have happened.

CHARLIE GASPARINO, FOX BUSINESS NETWORK SENIOR CORRESPONDENT: I think you need more than a couple of years. Let's just ramp this forward a little bit. You mentioned that -- Edward mentioned, the Justice Department's investigating this. We're understanding that they are now reaching out to business partners, and the sort of celebrity influencers of FTX.

So, people like -- I'm not saying, Tom Brady's got the call, but people like Tom Brady, the brand ambassadors are being called by the U.S. Attorney's Office, so with his business partners. People like Brad Katsuyama , IEX , and Anthony Scaramucci .

Again, not saying they're specifically being called, but the Justice Department right now is reaching out to them. Because they obviously don't believe that this was just, you know, I made a mistake, an \$8 billion mistake, and I'm sorry. You know, they -- this is -- this is like something a little more.

GALLAGHER: Yes.

GASPARINO: And you know, here is the sort of tragedy of this disorder. That -- the definite tragedy of this. You know, in Madoff, people got some of their money back. Because they -- the bankruptcy trustee was able to claw back the ill-gotten gains that people took out of it.

It was a classy Ponzi -- classic Ponzi scheme. You paid off people with new money coming in, there was never really an investment. So, people did get their money back, at least often, what they put in.

GALLAGHER: Yes.

GASPARINO: This is probably gone. He might have lost it on the trading markets. And bankruptcy trustees can't claw that back. That's very difficult.

But here is my point, I mean, the baffling thing about this is now you have SBF, saying, you know what, maybe we can save this thing, just pony up a little more dough.

He said the following here, "Maybe there is a chance to save the company, I believe there are billions of dollars of genuine interest from new investors that could go to making customers whole. But I can't promise you that anything will happen, because it's not my choice."

GASPARINO: Well, he sounds -- he sounds out of his mind. I mean, let's be real clear here. He went to the Middle East, I believe in October to look for money. From the Middle East, where there's lots of money.

I know people who took him around to major people at sovereign wealth funds, particularly to Saudi sovereign wealth fund. They said no. And this is October.

GALLAGHER: Right.

GASPARINO: So, what makes him think, now, there's a huge potential pool of money. I mean, like who? I mean, in their right mind is going to throw money at this.

And let's be real clear here. He does have technology, there is a platform there. I guess someone will buy it, but they are not buying it for \$5 billion. That's for sure.

I mean, you know, these sort of platforms are not exactly, you know, you can't -- it's not like you can't copy, and then, we're not inventing the wheel here. They're literally -- you're literally reinventing the wheel, I should say. You know, it's --

(CROSSTALK)

GALLAGHER: Yes.

GASPARINO: It's not that hard. So, I think he's -- I think he's delusional. I think he knows he's probably heading for jail.

GALLAGHER: Yes.

GASPARINO: The U.S. Attorney's Office would like to bring a case before the end of the -- end of the year. And if no money is found, other than his physical assets, and that's not enough to cover it. This is going to go down, you know, either worse or at least at par, with Madoff, and that's pretty bad.

GALLAGHER: Yes, and he is trying to cover those bases now, Charlie, because now he's issuing apologies, right?

So, he's one -- on one hand, saying, hey, maybe give me some more money and we can fix this whole thing and the other side is, oh, boy, I'm so sorry.

That's the whole thing is. He's apologizing. He wants money. It's going to be a mess. Charlie Gasparino, great to have you on as always. Thank you.

GASPARINO: Anytime.

GALLAGHER: Well, we are now minutes away from a live update from Idaho police, as we await answers in the brutal quadruple murders of four university students. We will bring you that live with attorney Brian Claypool.

Also here, Stephen Moore and Robert Wolf, as Americans dish out more for an inflation filled Thanksgiving feast. Coming up.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

GALLAGHER: Well this year's Thanksgiving feast is stuffed full of inflation. The average cost of tomorrow's meal is up 20% compared to last year with the price of some of the most popular fixings up even more, that according to the Farm Bureau's annual survey. Fox Business correspondent Grady Tremble is love with the breakdown. Grady, good afternoon.

GRADY TRIMBLE, FOX BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT: Hey, Trace. Unfortunately, I am the bearer of bad news this Thanksgiving Eve. We've been preparing our meal all day to kind of show you item by item how much more you'll be paying. We'll start with, of course, the centerpiece for most families the turkey. The Farm Bureau Federation says that a 16 pound bird will run year round \$29. That is a 21% increase from just one year ago.

I'm going to do my best Bob Barker impression and run through some prices of some of the most popular Thanksgiving items. We'll start with the one that has gone up the most since last year. A 14 ounce bag a stuffing mix will cost \$3.88. That's almost a 70% increase from last year. One of my personal favorites, the sweet potato casserole with the nicely brown marshmallow on top, that will run you for a three pound bag of sweet potatoes, about \$4, an 11% increase from a year ago. One pound bag of green beans, little less than \$2, doesn't seem like that much but it's 25% more than you paid last year. And let's do some dessert. Also one of my favorites, pumpkin pie, that'll cost about \$4.28, an 18% increase from a year ago.

All told you're paying quite a bit more than last year, like you said around 20%. And if you do the breakdown, the Farm Bureau Federation says it'll cost around \$64 to feed 10 people this Thanksgiving, the most expensive ever. And I think a lot of people would argue, they spend quite a bit more than that. I don't want to be a Debbie Downer, so I'll end on a positive note here, Trace.

GALLAGHER: Wait, I want to -- wait, hold on. Don't lift that price, Grady because -- for playing prices right, I want to be able to guess because we still got rolls or something, right?

TRIMBLE: We got one more.

SMITH (voice-over): OK. We got rolls.

TRIMBLE: Yes, yes. Go ahead.

GALLAGHER: I think it's up -- I want to say the rolls are up because I was just at the store a couple days ago, I think they're up 14% because of grain.

TRIMBLE: Good guess but even more, 22% if you can believe it. Yes. And I was going to end with the good news, which is that one item has gone down a little bit, Trace. And that's a 12 ounce bag of fresh cranberries. That's down 14% from a year ago. We're going to get this cleaned up, and then I'll send it back to you while we get Plinko set up for the next segment.

GALLAGHER: Enjoy. Happy Thanksgiving. I'm not a big fan of cranberries anyway.

TRIMBLE: Happy Thanksgiving.

GALLAGHER: Grady, thank you so much. Let's bring in Stephen Moore, founder of the Committee to Unleash Prosperity, and former senior economic adviser to President Trump and Robert Wolf, former economic adviser to President Obama, founder and CEO of 32 Advisor. He's also a Fox News contributor. Gentlemen, welcome to you both.

You looked at the meal that Grady was kind of laying it out. And again, the Department of Agriculture really tried to cover all its bases. First, they came out yesterday and said, listen, prices are only up 1% year over year from last year, Steve, right? And then they say, Oh, and if they're up more than that, then just blame Putin, the Putin price hikes. So, you know, getting everything covered, Steve.

STEPHEN MOORE , FORMER TRUMP SENIOR ECONOMIC ADVISER: Yes. And, by the way, I'm one of these people who are skeptical that only cost \$60 to feed 10 people for Thanksgiving. You know, that doesn't include the beer and wine, and all of that. But look,--

GALLAGHER: Yes.

MOORE: -- one of the things people are doing is buying smaller turkeys this year, because they just can't afford it. People, you know, many Americans are living paycheck to paycheck, the wage increases have been 5% over the last year, the inflation is running at 8%, it's a real problem. And I don't think -- the last thing I'd say is, I don't want to be a Debbie Downer either, but I'm not so sure that we're through with this bout of inflation. I think 2023 we could see continued price increases.

GALLAGHER: No. And if they can't figure out this rail strike, man, it is going to be --

MOORE: Exactly.

SMITH (voice-over): Here's how some Americans are cutting back. Americans -- one in four Americans, by the way, on this thing, Robert, plan to pass on Thanksgiving to save money. 88% are now cutting at least one dish, 57% keep the gathering small. And here is the Consumer Brand's associate VP on why prices are still going up. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

TOM MADRECKI, CONSUMER BRANDS ASSOCIATION VP: There's so much happening across the supply chain that's contributing to those higher prices that consumers are facing in the grocery store. Right now, we have to tackle one supply chain crisis at a time, that means putting again the freight rail issue to rest. And then we can go on to the next thing and solve the next crisis.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GALLAGHER: Yes. And, Robert, you look at some cities around the country where things are really high, and 20% is a very low number. I mean, inflation and Thanksgiving meals are pretty high. Your thoughts.

ROBERT WOLF, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR Well, I picked up our stuff today and it was crazy expensive. So believe me hardworking Americans out there, I feel for them. And I know it's a difficult time, during what was supposed to be an incredible festive holiday. That being said, we should not underestimate the impact of the war.

When I was president of UBS, Trace, we were one of the largest traders in commodities. And we know agriculture is a commodity. So let's look at the facts. Russia and Ukraine make up about a third of the exports of wheat. One of the largest and key players with respect to barley, corn fertilizer. So, of course, we were expecting this inflationary impact based on the Russia and Ukraine war. It's a factor was going to happen.

Then you add the impact on energy and you have, you know, trucks as the things that move all these goods around diesel is up, you know, pretty dramatically. And then, the last thing is consumer demand hasn't slowed. So there's no question you have in some ways, this perfect storm in a major impact is the war. So when they use the word the Putin hike, it's factual, because agriculture is a traded commodity.

GALLAGHER: Except, Stephen, he's leaving out the fact that the inflation number was going way up before the war even started. So that's one thing that has to be figured in there is, we were on this --

WOLF: Trace, (inaudible).

GALLAGHER: We were on the way up, Stephen Moore, after before the war ever started.

MOORE: Yes, we had 100% inflation.

WOLF: Yes, this October.

MOORE: Well, wait a minute. Under Trump, over four years inflation rate is only 2%, and is 1.5% the month he left office, even during COVID. And so, you know, the -- here's what's frustrating is, yes, you're right. Why aren't we producing more energy in the United States to counteract what's happened in Ukraine. And the other thing that's interesting, because Fox reported on this earlier this week, Trace, for the first time in like 10 years, the United States is a net importer of food. Why are we producing more because prices are up?

By the way, I owe Robert Wolf these \$5. I bet on this show four weeks ago that the Republicans would win the Senate. He bet the Democrats So, Robert, this money is in the mail. I just want that to be on the record.

WOLF: I'm going to tap down on something else.

GALLAGHER: Man, nicely done. Gentlemen, happy Thanksgiving to both of you. Thank you for the conversation. Well done.

WOLF: Thank you.

GALLAGHER: Today is one of the busiest travel days of the year, AAA predicts more than 48 million Americans will hit the road by car this Thanksgiving. Here in California, sales of new gas powered vehicles will be banned by 2035, they think, as the state revs up for an electric future. Fox Weather's Max Gordon is making his way up the I-5 in an electric car from LA to San Francisco. Hey, Max.

MAX GORDON, FOX WEATHER: Hey, Trace. So, we are on the road like many Americans today heading off to their Thanksgiving celebrations. I'm sitting shotgun. I've got photographer, Andy Anderson, at the wheel and we just finished charging up. And we're on our way to San Francisco, a journey of about 350 miles.

Now, a road trip in an electric vehicle is a little bit different than driving a gas-powered car as you might expect. Now the biggest difference between road tripping in an EV as opposed to driving gas-powered cars that you have to plan out your charging stops. Charging takes longer than gassing up the car, and charging stations aren't as widely available as gas stations, especially in rural areas. You also have to be mindful of weathers' impact on an EV's range. Cold temperatures reduce the number of miles an EV can travel.

Still California is charging ahead with its ban on new gas car sales by 2035. Environmental groups are applauding the move saying it will reduce emissions of greenhouse gases linked to climate change. But auto industry experts say that California still has a long way to go before the state is ready for everyone to switch over to electric vehicles.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOHN BOZZELLA, ALLIANCE FOR AUTOMOTIVE INNOVATION: The California Energy Commission estimates when they do their calculation of an appropriate ratio for vehicles to chargers, suggests that maybe California needs a million more chargers than they have today. And so that gives you a sense of the enormity of the infrastructure challenge. In addition to that, we have to make sure that these vehicles are affordable.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GORDON: Now, price is, of course, a big issue for a lot of folks. The Tesla Model Y that we're driving today has an MSRP of around \$66,000. Now, of course, there are some cheaper options out there but not a lot of economy electric vehicles on the market just yet. Trace, back to you.

GALLAGHER: Yes. And out the door, it's going to run like 85. Max Gordon live for us on the road. Safe travels to you.

Any minute now an update from Moscow, Idaho. Police who have yet to name a suspect in the brutal slayings of for university students 10 days ago. Attorney Brian Claypool standing by live for updates, next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

GALLAGHER: Police are about to take the podium in Moscow, Idaho for an update on that grisly quadruple murder as they quote look extensively into whether victim Kaylee Goncalves had a stalker, one of the many reports swirling and we expect to get some clarity in moments. Attorney Brian Claypool is here, first to correspondent Dan Springer. He's live on the ground for us in Moscow, Idaho. Dan.

DAN SPRINGER, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: And, Trace, you said at the news conference begins at the top of the hour but not expecting any major breaking developments because the Moscow Police Department just put out a news release saying that there will be no critical updates. You know, they haven't had a news conference since Sunday, and so we've been just trying to get information from them. And what they've largely been doing is shooting down rumors and speculation.

As you said there have been some reports that one of the victims had -- may have had a stalker and police say that they have done hundreds of pieces of information that they've gone through, to look at their possibility that someone was stalking Kaylee Goncalves. And they -- after all of that, they say that they are not able to verify or identify any stalker.

As you said, we're getting our first look inside the house where the murders happened. This TikTok video shows Ethan Chapin and his girlfriend, Xana Kernodle, in Halloween costumes. And then there was a longer video showing the three roommate victims laughing and playing around. The videos were told were made just days before the murders.

As for the investigation appears police may be about done processing the scene for clues, unless more information develops. Yesterday there was no investigative activity at the house for the first time. And this

morning just one cop went in -- took what appeared to be a cooler. He left 20 minutes later empty handed. We know an FBI profiling team is working this case. They have not released any type of profile but other experts not directly working the investigation are weighing in.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

LISA MILLER, NEUROPSYCHOLOGIST: There it could be the fact that the killer felt slighted by one of them, maybe on a personal level or maybe the killer was resentful of what these kids represent as being successful young people.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SPRINGER: So again, the news conference begins momentarily at the top of the hour, but we're expecting no critical updates for the Moscow Police Department. They say that they don't have any other news conferences scheduled at this time. Trace?

GALLAGHER: Dan, back to you if there are updates. Dan Springer live for us on the same. Thank you.

Attorney Brian Claypool joins me now. I mean, now the families, Brian, you've kind of watched and follow this case. They're getting frustrated. They're starting to criticize some of the police officers because as Dan was saying, there's no information coming out to anybody, even the families. And you would think that if the police had information, they would at least share it with the families. Here's Steve Goncalves, the father of Kaylee. Here's what he said and I'll get your opinion.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JAKE TAPPER, CNN ANCHOR: Do you know if police believe one person in the house was the target of this attack, or all four?

STEVE GONCALVES, KAYLEE GONCALVES' FATHER: I've been told this one. But then, again, there's the big miss like, it's like purposely vague, I'm hoping but it confuses everyone, because nobody knows what that really means. Other than maybe somebody had a different kind of attack footprint.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GALLAGHER: Being purposely vague to the families to confuse maybe everybody. What do you think, Brian?

BRIAN CLAYPOOL, ATTORNEY: Hey, Trace, great to be with you and happy Thanksgiving. Hey, look, this crime is like no other. It is a heinous crime and it warrants differently by law enforcement. Four young people were gruesomely murdered. That's important because public safety risk. This goes beyond just family members, Trace, (inaudible) the community. They need to know what's going on.

The university is ready to shut down. People need to know, for example -- been interviewed, why have eliminated -- suspects. It's really important. (Inaudible) looked at the footage inside the bar that they look -- did they interview all of the fraternity members to the girls were at a fraternity party. While (inaudible) the driver of the car that dropped two of the victims off.

The public needs this is -- what forensic testing has been done, was there any tissue underneath the fingernails of some of --

GALLAGHER: Can you stop this right there (inaudible) you're kind of cutting in and out a little bit. I just want to point out a couple of things on the house, and this is important. We talked about the sliding glass doors. We talked about the sliding glass doors because we're not exactly sure which door that the suspect entered. But you can see the house is built on a slope, so one of the sliding glass doors goes in on the second floor. Two of the victims were on the second floor, two of the victims on the third floor, and the two who lived were on -- were on the first floor, they were not harmed. We'll continue to bring you updates in that.

Brian, we'll get back to you. We apologize for the bad audio.

While the man suspected of killing six at a Virginia Walmart has now been identified. And that is next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

GALLAGHER: Well, one body came out in a shopping cart, that from a witness to the shooting at a Walmart in Virginia. Seven people were killed including the gunman. Survivors say he was a store manager. The national correspondent Griff Jenkins is live in Chesapeake, Virginia with more on this. Griff, good afternoon.

GRIFF JENKINS, FOX NEWS NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT: Good afternoon, Trace. Investigators are busy at work. I'll step quickly out of the way and you can see the heavy presence of FBI agents here in the parking lot of that Walmart . We're learning now, authorities identifying the alleged gunman is Andre Bing of Chesapeake, Virginia. 31 years old, he was a Walmart associate since 2010, and was a overnight team leader with no criminal history. But he entered the break room and began to take lives. In the end seven total fatalities. That includes the gunman, Bing.

What we don't know though, Trace, is what was the motive? The Chesapeake Police chief says he simply doesn't have that answer yet. Take a listen here.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Can you confirm or do you know these attacks were targeted against any specific employees or this individual shooting at random?

MARK SOLESKY, CHESAPEAKE, VA POLICE CHIEF: We don't know at this time. The investigation is still ongoing, so there's no clear motive at this time.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

JENKINS: This tragedy has left the community on edge. Here in the parking lot, we can show you a video of a memorial that has been erected, honoring the victims written on that heart is the name of Tanika Johnson. She's 22 years old. She is one of the six deceased victims. And the governor of Virginia, Glenn Younkin, by the way, ordering flags, Trace, to be lowered across the state as they mourn before Thanksgiving. Trace, we'll send it back to you.

GALLAGHER: Griff, I understand we're hearing the gunman actually took his own life. Do we know if he took his own life while police were coming in or is that not clear yet?

JENKINS: Authorities say, Trace, he took him took his own life, self- inflicted gunshot wound before. And when they entered the building at 10:16 PM last night, they found him deceased. Trace.

GALLAGHER: Griff Jenkins live for us in Chesapeake, Virginia. Now on to another murder scene, we're talking about a press conference, this one in Moscow, Idaho in Northern Idaho. We are about to get an update and these have been rare. They haven't given an update since Sunday. Dan Springer, who's on the ground there, has just informed us that he does not believe anything monumental will come out of this, but we're hoping to get a little bit more information on maybe potential suspects.

The families are frustrated because there has been such little information. We had been reporting now for 10 days about the fact that inside that house, it was a bloody mess. There was evidence everywhere. How much and how exceptional the evidence is, is there DNA, does it point to anybody, is there a motive, was this targeted, was this random. A lot of answers -- I mean, a lot of questions very few answers.

That is THE STORY of Wednesday November 23rd. But as always, THE STORY goes on. Be sure to join me for Fox News at Night, midnight on the East, 9:00 PM Pacific. "YOUR WORLD" starts right now.

END

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NS gvdhs : Department of Homeland/National Security (Discontinued from 10th January 2023) | gcrim : Crime/Legal Action | gpol : Domestic Politics | gpri : Politics/International Relations | clabdi : Labor Disputes | cslmc : Senior Level Management | ghome : Law Enforcement | ghutrk : Human Trafficking | gillim : Illegal Immigration | gjob : General Labor Issues | gmurd : Murder/Manslaughter | greg : Regional Politics | gtterr : Terrorism | gvio : Military Action | nsur : Surveys/Polls | ntra : Transcripts | gtvrad : Television/Radio | c41 : Management | c42 : Labor/Personnel | ccat : Corporate/Industrial News | gcat : Political/General News | gcns : National/Public Security | gcom : Society/Community | gent : Arts/Entertainment | ghum : Human

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HD **Alejandro Mayorkas Urged To Resign Or Risk Impeachment; First Day In Court For FTX Bankruptcy Case; Rail Looms Strike After Joe Biden Hailed Tentative Deal; Revisiting Anthony Fauci's Comments Amid COVID Pandemic; Warnings Of Potential World Cup Terror Attack; Hero Emerges From Colorado Springs Nightclub Shooting As Veteran Who Tackled And Disarmed Gunman; Police Still Have No Suspect In Murders Of Four University Of Idaho Students; Chinese Government Accused Of Setting Up Stations Across World To Intimidate Chinese Dissidents; House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy Visits U.S. Southern Border; Dr. Anthony Issues Last Press Briefing At White House Podium**

BY Bret Baier, Bill Melugin, Kelly O'Grady, Peter Doocy, Marc Siegel, Dr. Marty Makary, Jennifer Griffin, Claudia Cowan, Dan Springer, Bryan Llenas

WC 7,592 words

PD 22 November 2022

SN Fox News: Special Report with Brett Baier

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LA English

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LP

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Fort Lauderdale?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: It wasn't a cruise ship.

TD

(CROSSTALK)

HAROLD FORD JR., FOX NEWS CHANNEL CONTRIBUTOR: Brown University freshmen, Olivia Pichardo, a fellow New Yorker, the first woman to ever make a Division I baseball team. She's going to play her first game February 24th, congrats to you.

WATTERS: Yay, women. That's it for us, up next with Bret.

BRET BAIER, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Does that drink have like stuffing in the bottom, is it?

WATTERS: It's tough. I'm going to send you a bottle.

BAIER: OK, I'd like to. All right. Thanks, Jesse. Good evening. I'm Bret Baier.

The first look inside the home where four University of Idaho students were massacred. That story is unbelievable. Keep it here for that.

Dr. Anthony Fauci has his final appearance at the White House briefing. He's not straying far from the spotlight however.

And new details about threats to the World Cup from Iran-backed terrorist.

Breaking tonight, House Republican leaders at the southern border want President Biden's Homeland Security Chief gone. Today, they received a firsthand look at the illegal immigration crisis as they prepare to take control of the chamber next year.

The minority leader who is positioning himself to be the next Speaker of the House is giving Alejandro Mayorkas a choice of two bad options.

Correspondent Bill Melugin is in El Paso, Texas right now with the latest. Good evening, Bill.

BILL MELUGIN, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Bret, good evening to you. Just a short time ago, GOP Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy issued an ultimatum to DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, resign or face possible impeachment from a Republican controlled House.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MELUGIN (voice over): GOP Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy and the delegation of House Republicans in El Paso today touring the busiest sector along the border and meeting with frontline Border Patrol agents.

At one point during their tour, a makeshift camp of Venezuelan migrants yelled to them from across the river in Mexico. At the conclusion of the tour, Leader McCarthy held a press conference where he took aim at DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas.

REP. KEVIN MCCARTHY (R-CA): Today, I am calling on the secretary to resign. If Secretary Mayorkas does not resign, House Republicans will investigate every order, every action and every failure will determine whether we can begin impeachment inquiry.

MELUGIN: The GOP border visit caught the attention of the White House and El Paso's Democratic Congresswoman.

KARINE JEAN-PIERRE, WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY: McCarthy has no plan. The Republican Party has no plan. They do nothing except do political stunts.

REP. VERONICA ESCOBAR (D-TX): Republicans are doing what they always do, they parachute in. They throw temper tantrums and they offer zero solutions.

MELUGIN: According to CBP, the El Paso sector saw more than 53,000 illegal crossings in October alone, a 280 percent increase over the year prior.

Fox News has seen multiple breaches in the border wall in this sector, breaches migrants used to sneak into El Paso illegally.

Fox's cameras have also repeatedly witnessed groups of illegal immigrants crossing and successfully evading Border Patrol here, running and escaping into residential neighborhoods, sometimes with no Border Patrol agents around, making them presumed gotaways.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MELUGIN (on camera): And Bret, McCarthy went on to tell me that Secretary Mayorkas has until January 3rd to make a decision on possible resignation. He also said that if he is elected as speaker, and once Republicans take control in January, what he's planning on doing is actually holding a border hearings physically down here at our southern border, in an effort to force Democrats to come down here themselves and actually see this crisis firsthand. We'll send it back to you.

BAIER: That would be something. Bill, thank you.

Bankruptcy proceedings are underway now in the largest collapse during the short history of cryptocurrency. These come amid the question of whether the embattled CEO of FTX will be extradited from the Bahamas.

Tonight, we're learning additional details of Sam Bankman-Fried's lavish lifestyle. Fox Business Correspondent Kelly O'Grady is in Wilmington, Delaware with the latest tonight. Good evening, Kelly.

KELLY O'GRADY, FOX BUSINESS NETWORK CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Good evening to you, Bret. Yes, today's hearing revealing more details in the case that the new FTX CEO is calling worse than Enron. One FTX lawyer characterizing the fallout as a different sort of animal and sharing this, saying: "What we have is a worldwide organization that was run effectively as a personal fiefdom of Sam Bankman-Fried. What we had was a lack of corporate controls at a level that none of us in the profession have looked at and so far has ever seen."

While lawyer shared they've now recovered a total of 1.24 billion, the bigger revelations coming in where all the billions have gone.

First, FTX highlighting that a substantial amount of assets were either stolen or missing. The company is continuing to fight off cyber-attacks that began the day it filed for bankruptcy.

And more shocking, 300 million in corporate funds being used to purchase homes and vacation properties in the Bahamas for the company's senior staff, the images that you're seeing are of the disgraced founder's \$40 million mansion. And with lawyers today sharing creditors will likely see just a fraction of their dollar, calls are intensifying for Bankman-Fried to be brought back from the Bahamas.

The extradition treaty requires charges though, so that could be difficult given the case's complicated nature.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MATTHEW WHITAKER, FORMER ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL: I worry having spent, you know, several years at the Department of Justice that, you know, there's very few people that actually understand cryptocurrency and these type of financial markets.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

O'GRADY: A legal experts telling us these types of fraud cases often hinge on proving implicit criminal intent and rushing charges could lead to them being thrown out, so agencies often take time to first untangle the dynamics.

That's a reality also facing creditors who are hoping to recover some of those lost funds. The lawyers here saying that it could be months before they're able to dig through it all, Bret.

BAIER: Kelly O'Grady live in Wilmington, Delaware. Kelly, thanks.

Now to the prospect of a nationwide railway strike at the start of the holiday season. A tentative deal from a few weeks ago has apparently fallen apart now. President Biden took credit for that agreement then, and there are new questions about his involvement this time.

White House Correspondent Peter Doocy has details live from the North Lawn. Good evening, Peter.

PETER DOOCY, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Good evening, Bret. This president is an outspoken supporter of unions and this president is an outspoken supporter of trains. But so far, he is not taking the train worker union's side in this labor dispute that could bring supply chains to a crippling halt.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JEAN-PIERRE: We have to prevent a rail shutdown.

DOOCY (voice over): But we don't know how involved they are at the White House talking to unions or rail companies.

JEAN-PIERRE: The president is indeed involved directly. But I don't want to get into details at this time.

DOOCY: Four of 12 unions have voted down a tentative agreement. The largest is SMART-TD whose members want more protections to improve quality of life.

JEREMY FERGUSON, PRESIDENT, SMART TRANSPORTATION DIVISION: Yes, a strike could be averted. The ball is back in the carrier's hands at this point and we're back in their court.

DOOCY: The White House celebrated, taking credit for stopping this strike in September.

JEAN-PIERRE: A tentative agreement, it was a big deal.

DOOCY: Now the unions may have the leverage.

FERGUSON: We sure surely want to help Santa Claus get those gifts delivered for Christmas.

DOOCY: COVID no longer the all-encompassing crisis. So, the White House is saying goodbye to a retiring Dr. Anthony Fauci.

JEAN-PIERRE: One last time, one more time at the podium.

DOOCY: He's not going far, anticipating multiple congressional subpoenas.

DR. ANTHONY FAUCI, DIRECTOR, NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ALLERGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES: I absolutely will cooperate fully and testify before the Congress. I have nothing to hide.

DOOCY: He's long dismissed criticism.

FAUCI: They're really criticizing science. Because I represent science. That's dangerous.

DOOCY: Although criticism was usually about his guidance like on masks. He eventually supported mandates after starting here.

FAUCI: Right now, people should not be worried, there's no reason to be walking around with a mask.

DOOCY: And on businesses like closing bars and schools.

FAUCI: Right now, we have to start implementing both containment and mitigation. And what was done when you do closing the school, this mitigation.

DOOCY: He's unconcerned about learning loss.

FAUCI: I don't think it's forever irreparably damaged anyone.

DOOCY: And his guidance about COVID dating back to its earliest days was inconsistent at best. Upon reflection, he makes no apologies.

FAUCI: We were not dealing with a static situation. We're dealing with a dynamic situation.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

DOOCY (on camera): The presidential motorcade is staging behind us. The first family is about to head to Nantucket for Thanksgiving where the Bidens may have some potentially historic discussions because we have long been told that over the holidays, the family is going to discuss a reelection bid or not, Bret.

BAIER: Yes, Peter, a couple of things. Why is President Biden extending the student loan debt pause?

DOOCY: Because it's something that he can control whereas he cannot control what the courts are going to do to the challenges of these student loan payment lawsuits. Listen.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOE BIDEN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: It isn't fair to ask tens of millions of borrowers eligible for relief to resume their student debt payments, while the courts consider the lawsuit.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

DOOCY: So, now these payments are not going to resume until June 30th. That is six months later than the president said.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BIDEN: Student loan payment pause is going to end. It's going to end December 30th. I'm extending it to December 31st 2022. And it's going to end at that time. It's time for the payments to resume.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

DOOCY: There was no wiggle room in that statement. He said the payments needed to resume this year. Now he says they don't, Bret.

BAIER: On the COVID issue, is the White House now saying that conversations with Chinese President Xi did talk about COVID origins?

DOOCY: Yes, it was just about a week ago we were sitting there in evening in Bali, Indonesia on the sidelines of the G20, President Biden came out to talk about his meeting with Xi, never said anything about COVID origins, never said anything about fentanyl.

This evening, a White House official reached out to say they did talk about the importance of China being transparent when it comes to COVID. And they also spoke about Counter Narcotics efforts, including fentanyl. They're filling in some big gaps to the official historical record of that meeting a week later, Bret.

BAIER: Very interesting. Peter Doocy live on the North Lawn. Peter, thanks.

Joining us tonight, Dr. Marty Makary, Johns Hopkins health policy expert, Fox News contributor, and Dr. Marc Siegel, professor of medicine at New York University Langone Medical Center, Fox News contributor. I wanted to get these two docs together to talk about Dr. Fauci on his last day as he leaves the White House and the White House podium. And that team.

You know, first of all, 30,000 feet to both of you, Dr. Siegel first, what do you think Anthony Fauci's legacy will be?

DR. MARC SIEGEL, FOX NEWS CHANNEL MEDICAL ANALYST: Well, I think Peter Doocy set it up -- set it up nicely already, which is the issue is that he reversed himself a lot, that he didn't have a consistent policy, that he basically was very slow to consider the collateral damage done by lockdowns and shutdowns and we're seeing that now, not just in terms of schools, and learning problems, but also in terms

of emerging viruses, immune systems that are paused, we're seeing a big outbreak of RSV and flu because we didn't consider what masks and lockdowns were going to do there.

And again, he never said a consistent policy of what the damage would be.

Bret, the other point is, and this came up at the press conference today is I'm not satisfied on the COVID origins thing. Because I've interviewed Dr. Redfield on this, who has -- who has a lot of top secret information. And they've never really put to bed the issue of lab origins at all. And Dr. Fauci has been very rigid on the lab origins issue, which bothers me a lot because he's supported an international consortium of scientists to look at gain of function research where we test a virus to see how far it can go, which may very well have been the origin of the COVID pandemic.

And so, there's a debate on that, but I don't think anyone should have ridiculed him or, you know, made chatter during the press conference today. I think he should be treated with respect. But he is definitely behind the side that never considered when the Genie is out of the bottle, what happens?

BAIER: Yes. And we on SPECIAL REPORT were among the first to cover some of the early back and forth on the COVID origin story.

I want to play a little bit more of that sound bite. You heard some of it in Peter's piece on the changing science. This is Dr. Fauci today.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

FAUCI: There was really a difference early on in the first weeks, two months of the outbreak, because we will -- we were dealing with truly a moving target.

When you're dealing with an evolving outbreak where the information you get changes from week to week and month to month, we've got to probably do a better job of when we talk to the public explain that this is a dynamic situation that could change. I've said that from this podium multiple times.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: Dr. Makary, how do you respond to that?

DR. MARTY MAKARY, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CONTRIBUTOR: Well, Dr. Fauci's primary job is to fund research on infectious diseases. And the research we got was tragically late and inappropriate many times. For example, it was an airborne virus, yet, we didn't have the research to tell us it was airborne.

And so for months, people were told to wash their hands like crazy and we gave people false assurance that that would mitigate the spread.

His primary job is to fund research. We didn't see that research with natural immunity with school universal masking, and with many of the blanket recommendations like boosting young people. So, that is I think the primary failure of Dr. Fauci.

Now, he's had some contributions in public health over the last 50 years, and even during COVID, I think he did encourage high risk people to get vaccinated and warn seniors of the risk of the virus and both of those were valuable contributions.

BAIER: I want to get you both to weigh in about the risks going forward. Obviously, there's an uptick in RSV especially among children, respiratory infections. There are efforts to in some places, Dr. Siegel, put mask mandates back in. Where do you see this going forward? Look into the crystal ball.

SIEGEL: I don't like the mandates, and I never have. I like vaccines a lot. As you know, I'm very pro vaccine. And I think the mRNA vaccine has made a major contribution. I think it's been given to billions safely. I think their side effects are very, very low.

But you're talking about severity, decreasing severity, I want people to have immunity on board, I want them to have immunity wherever they get it from the vaccine or recent infection.

We went way too late to consider a recent infection as a form of immunity. Dr. Makary, and I've been talking about that for a year and a half already.

So, going forward, we need public health compliance without mocking people, without ridiculing people, without fear mongering, without making people feel bad. We've set vaccine compliance back with the kind of political divisiveness we've had.

BAIER: Dr. Makary, your kind of crystal ball looking forward, there's obviously still concerned with some people with long COVID as well.

MAKARY: I think right now we've had a one hammer approach and that has been a COVID zero policy. And if you look at what that's done, it's resulted in significant lifelong learning loss. And we've still not really accepted the data from Europe that the schools were open, free and clear, and the kids were without masks the entire time, and they did not have significant increases in transmission.

My fear is that we've seen the politicalization of this virus because we didn't have that research that Dr. Fauci should have funded very expeditiously to answer the big questions.

And as a result, people don't trust public health officials. The new bivalent Omicron vaccine is a classic example. Only about 10 percent of Americans have received it and the data to support it is not even public except for minimal data.

BAIER: Dr. Makary, Dr. Siegel, we appreciate your time. Thanks.

MAKARY: Thanks.

SIEGEL: Thanks, Bret.

BAIER: Happy Thanksgiving. Stocks were up on solid earnings reports today, the Dow jumped 398, the S&P 500 finished ahead 54, the NASDAQ rose 150.

South Carolina Republican Senator Lindsey Graham testified today before a special grand jury investigating whether then President Trump and others illegally meddled in the 2020 election in Georgia.

Senator Graham's office says he spent just over two hours with the panel, answered all their questions. Graham went all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court in efforts to try to avoid testifying.

Speaking of the U.S. Supreme Court, the court cleared the way for the imminent handover of former President Trump's tax returns to a congressional committee after a three year legal fight.

Supreme Court justices rejected former President Trump's plea for an order that would have prevented the Treasury Department from giving six years of tax returns to the Democratic controlled House Ways and Means Committee.

Up next, is the World Cup being threatened by Iranian backed terrorists? We'll look at the evidence and the threat stream.

And later, why is China establishing a so-called service stations, some call them police stations here inside the U.S.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BAIER: The first big upset in the World Cup. Do you see this? Saudi Arabia stunning Argentina 2-1 in the opener for both teams. Really the biggest upset we've seen in the World Cup in a long long time. The U.S. is preparing to play England Friday, the American settled for a draw against Wales yesterday.

Meantime, Iran has begun enriching uranium at an increasingly high purity, its latest move in the ongoing international tug of war over its nuclear program. And we have new information tonight on a story we broke last night concerning Iranian affiliated terrorists, they may try to disrupt the World Cup according to U.S. intelligence officials.

Here's Chief National Security Correspondent Jennifer Griffin

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JENNIFER GRIFFIN, FOX NEWS CHANNEL NATIONAL SECURITY CORRESPONDENT (voice over): Explosive claims from Israeli military intelligence that the powder keg situation in Iran could trigger "aggressive responses in the region and in the world, including disrupting the World Cup in Qatar".

MAJ. GEN. AHARON HALIVA, ISRAELI INTELLIGENCE CHIEF (through translator): I am telling you that the Iranians are now considering attacking the World Cup in Qatar as well. The only thing holding them back is how the Qataris will react.

GRIFFIN: A senior U.S. official telling Fox there are multiple threat streams suggesting a potential terror attack against the World Cup.

A potential attack could involve the Houthis, an Iranian affiliated Shiite faction fighting in Yemen. They have shown themselves capable of launching missiles and swarming drone strikes at Saudi Arabia.

Israel's chief of Military Intelligence Major General Aharon Haliva says the protests in Tehran which started as women and girls refusing to wear Islamic headscarves has turned into a popular uprising.

Iran's national soccer team risked their lives by not singing the national anthem during their World Cup opener to show solidarity with the protesters at home.

The IAEA warned today that Iran is expanding its uranium enrichment at Natanz, adding 100 centrifuge cascades and plans significant expansion of its low enriched uranium production at the underground mountain facility at Fordow.

Israel's Chief of General Staff Lieutenant General Aviv Kochavi visited the Pentagon Monday to meet with General Mark Milley.

In a statement, he said they discussed the Iranian threat. "It was agreed that we are at a critical point in time that requires the acceleration of operational plans and cooperation against Iran and its terrorist proxies in the region."

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GRIFFIN (on camera): The U.S. and Israel agreed to carry out joint Air Force drills in the coming weeks with scenarios that will simulate attacks against Iran and its Shiite proxies in the Middle East, Bret.

BAIER: Jennifer Griffin at the Pentagon. Jennifer, thank you.

The U.S. Navy says investigators have concluded an Iranian drone was used to bomb an oil tanker link to an Israeli billionaire last week.

The attack on the Liberian flagged oil tanker off the coast of Oman appears to be part of the long running shadow war between Israel and its arch enemy Iran. That has included the targeting of Israeli linked ships in strategic Mideast waterways.

Up next, the latest information in the investigations into mass shootings in Colorado and Idaho.

First, Beyond our Borders tonight, Indonesian rescuers sift through the rubble of flattened buildings as they search for the dead and missing from Monday's earthquake that killed at least 268 people. More than a thousand people were injured. Hospitals near the epicenter are already overwhelmed. Some remote areas are still unreachable.

Six former executives of a now defunct Hong Kong pro-democracy newspaper pled guilty to a collusion charge. They were arrested last year during a crackdown on dissent after China imposed a sweeping security law in response to widespread anti-government protests in 2019.

And this is a live look at London. One of the big stories there tonight, King Charles III welcome South Africa's president to London for the first state visit of his reign.

The trip include a formal banquet as well as talks with government leaders focused on investment and green energy.

Just some of the other stories Beyond our Borders tonight. We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BAIER: Republicans have picked up another seat in the House. David Valadao has won reelection in his Central Valley, California, seat overcoming fallout from his vote to impeach then President Trump. The GOP now has 219 seats in the House, one over the majority 218 need to take control. Democrats have 212. That leaves four undecided at this point, one in Colorado, the Alaska ranked choice election, and two races in California, a state that as of this morning has more than a half million votes still to count this far from Election Day.

A hero has emerged from Saturday's tragic Colorado Springs nightclub massacre. He is an Army veteran who tackled and disarmed the suspected gunman, possibly saving many lives. Senior correspondent Claudia Cowan is in Colorado Springs tonight.

(BEGIN VIDEO TAPE)

RICHARD FIERRO, NIGHTCLUB PATRON: We were out having a great time, a beautiful place, beautiful people. And it was fun, until this guy decided to turn our dream into a nightmare.

CLAUDIA COWAN, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Former field artillery officer Richard Fierro detailing the drama today on FOX when he went from partying on the dancefloor with his family into full combat mode after a gunman burst into Club Q and opened fire, tackling him to the ground from behind and pistol whipping the shooter with his own gun while a drag queen stomped on his face and other patrons pinned him down until police arrived.

FIERRO: We just started hitting the guy, man. That's all you can do. You've got to protect everybody around you. At that point everybody in that room was family to me.

COWAN: Amid the chaos, arriving officers detained Fierro who was covered in blood but soon realized he almost certainly saved lives by subduing the assailant, identified as 22-year-old Anderson Aldrich, as new details emerge about his troubled past. According to "The Washington Post," he was born Nicholas Brink, but after being bullied as a teenager while living in Texas, he legally changed his name and moved to Colorado. His mother also had run-ins with the law. No one from his family has spoken publicly.

But those who lost loved ones in the shooting are sharing photos and tributes to remember Raymond Vance, Kelly Loving, Ashley Paugh, Daniel Aston, and Derek Rump, the victims ranging in age from 22 to 40. At least 19 other people were injured in the shooting that has shattered this city.

(END VIDEO TAPE)

COWAN (on camera): Many are finding comfort by mourning together at this memorial outside the club as they wait for police to determine a motive behind Saturday's attack. Aldrich is now being held at the El Paso County jail and could be formally charged next week. Bret?

BAIER: Claudia Cowan in Colorado Springs. Claudia, thank you. The suspect will be making his first court appearance tomorrow via video link.

A memorial service was held last night for one of the victims of the University of Idaho student slayings. This evening, we are seeing images from inside the building where the killings took place. Correspondent Dan Springer is in Moscow, Idaho, again tonight.

(BEGIN VIDEO TAPE)

DAN SPRINGER, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: For the first time we're getting a look inside the house where four University of Idaho students were slaughtered more than a week ago. Three of the victims who rented the house made a TikTok video imitating each other just days before their murders. Today there was no police activity in or around the crime scene which is still taped off. Investigators from the FBI and Idaho state police did briefly expand the crime scene Monday.

But there is still no suspect, no murder weapon, and no answer to the question, if this was a targeted attack, who was the killer's target and why? Former assistant FBI director Chris Swecker was on "FOX & FRIENDS FIRST" saying this could be a tough, long investigation.

CHRIS SWECKER, FORMER FBI ASSISTANT DIRECTOR: After over 90 interviews no one has surfaced as having a motive or the means or the capability to do that. So that suggests to me that this may have been a random or a target of opportunity if you will, which are some of the hardest crimes to solve.

SPRINGER: In Mount Vernon, Washington, the first victim memorial service was held. Hundreds gathered to remember 20-year-old Ethan Chapin. His mother addressed the media.

STACY CHAPIN, VICTIM'S MOTHER: They were here to honor the life and legacy of our son and brother Ethan Chapin, one of the most incredible people you will ever know.

SPRINGER: Stacey Chapin also thanked Moscow police for, in her words, carrying the burden for all impacted families. Police did shoot down one of the theories some were circulating. In a news release titled "Rumor Control," police said a dog that was skinned a month ago three miles away was unrelated, and other dead dogs found were wildlife activity.

(END VIDEO TAPE)

SPRINGER (on camera): As for information that is related to this shocking crime, police remain tight-lipped. Hopefully they will share more of what they do know at a rare news conference set for tomorrow afternoon. Bret?

BAIER: Dan Springer in Moscow, Idaho. Dan, thank you. We are learning just in the past few minutes that there has been some minimal police activity. Officers removed two boxes from that scene. We'll continue to follow this story.

Up next, why is China establishing so-called service stations, or police stations some are calling them, in cities around the world and allegedly meddling in elections, including here in the U.S.? We will take a look.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

YAN XIONG, CHINESE DISSIDENT: This is the USA. They have not any reason or authority to interfere in the U.S. election. That should be zero tolerance.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BAIER: Vice President Kamala Harris is accusing China of intimidation and coercion in the disputed South China Sea. She made that comment in a speech from the Philippines. Back here at home, growing concerns over what are being termed service stations opened by China in many cities, including New York. The head of the FBI says he is concerned about what is going on inside these facilities. Republicans are pressing for answers from President Biden. Correspondent Bryan Llenas is in Chinatown tonight.

(BEGIN VIDEO TAPE)

REP. MIKE WALTZ, (R-FL): We have to wake up to the fact that this is happening. It's happening right in our backyard.

BRYAN LLENAS, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Republicans like Florida Representative Michael Waltz are demanding the Biden administration investigate China's latest efforts to spy on Chinese dissidents in the U.S. and around the world. According to the human rights organization Safeguard Defenders, China's communist regime has established at least 54 so-called police service stations in cities across more than a dozen countries as a means to threaten, intimidate, and control Chinese dissidents.

LAURA HARTH, SAFEGUARD DEFENDERS: These particular campaigns of persuading people to return against their will, forcing them return to China through fully illegal means.

LLENAS: Here in New York City's Chinatown, an illegal police service station is allegedly operating out of this building. The Chinese government says it's the America ChangLe Association, a nonprofit blacklisted by the IRS dedicating to helping Chinese nationals with bureaucratic affairs like renewing driver's licenses.

FBI Director Christopher Wray says he is concerned and investigating.

CHRISTOPHER WRAY, FBI DIRECTOR: It is outrageous to think that the Chinese police would attempt to set up shop in New York, let's say, without proper coordination.

LLENAS: Yan Xiong, a U.S. veteran and famous Chinese dissident, has been the target of Chinese spies. Earlier this year the FBI arrested a Chinese government agent who tried to derail Xiong's his political congressional campaign through intimidation. Xiong says Chinese residents were afraid to support him.

YAN XIONG, CHINESE DISSIDENT (through translator): This is a tragic thing. They all live in the United States and yet are still afraid of CCP in China. This is proof that the CCP's arm has reached too far.

LLENAS: In New York, Bryan Llenas, FOX News.

(END VIDEO TAPE)

BAIER: Up next, the panel on President Biden's new reality concerning the border crisis.

First, here's what some of our FOX affiliates around the country are covering tonight. FOX 436 in Charlotte where authorities say a pilot and a meteorologist from another North Carolina television station are dead following the crash of the station's helicopter next to an interstate highway. Police say no vehicles were involved in that incident. Preliminary witness accounts indicate the pilot made diversionary maneuvers to avoid injuring anyone else.

FOX 10 in Phoenix as a popular hiking destination in the Grand Canyon has been renamed. Bright Angel Trail was offensive to some people. It is now called Havasupai Gardens after the tribe that once populated the area and was forcibly removed as the park was developed.

And this is a live look at Kansas City from FOX 4, our affiliate there. One of the big stories there tonight, a winning lottery ticket from northeast Kansas remains unclaimed two days after being drawn. The Powerball

grand prize jackpot was almost \$93 million at the time. It's the first time the jackpot has been hit in Kansas since 2012. Get those tickets. Check them out.

That's tonight's live look outside the beltway from SPECIAL REPORT. We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. KEVIN MCCARTHY, (R-CA), HOUSE MINORITY LEADER: Together we bear witness to the worst border crisis in U.S. history. Now that Title 42 may end, we are bracing for a tsunami. Today, I am calling on the secretary to resign.

KARINE JEAN-PIERRE, WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY: What is his plan? He goes down there and he does a political stunt, like many Republicans do, that we have seen them do. But he actually is not putting forth a plan.

We have put a solution to this.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: The White House responding to Minority Leader now, Kevin McCarthy at the U.S. southern border calling for the resignation of the Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas. We should point out that President Biden has not visited the border, as pressed by the White House press secretary today.

Let's bring in our panel, Guy Benson, political editor at Townhall.com, host of "The Guy Benson Show" on FOX News Radio, "THE FIVE" co-host Jessica Tarlov, and Jonathan Swan, national political reporter for "Axios." Jonathan, obviously, there is some element to this that Leader McCarthy is positioning himself to be House Speaker McCarthy, and the possibility of impeaching Secretary Mayorkas may appeal to some folk that he needs votes from. But, yet, the border crisis and the border security issue is a make vulnerability, it seems, for the Biden administration.

JONATHAN SWAN, NATIONAL POLITICAL REPORTER, "AXIOS": It's probably the most unifying issue for Republicans across the conference. You're right, Kevin McCarthy does have a problem on his right flank. He is trying to become speaker. He doesn't have the votes right now, and he is looking for issues that can appeal to them but also not going to alienate their many moderates in his conference as well, including some newly elected ones.

But look, the border numbers started to rise precipitously after Joe Biden took office. That's just a fact. And they hit record highs. And this is a problem the administration has not been able to solve. So, yes, it's very fertile ground, but it's also a unifying issue for Republicans and Kevin McCarthy. It does need to be seen through the context of him trying to get the votes to become speaker.

BAIER: Yes. Jessica, the pushback from the White House is that what is their plan? Their plan is security first, and then you can talk about other issues going forward. But the White House isn't really pitching hard on this issue, it doesn't seem. The president is not making a trip to the border.

JESSICA TARLOV, CO-HOST, "THE FIVE": No. It hasn't really felt like it's been much of a priority, and there was, going back to the 2018 midterms where the Democrats did incredibly well, and we thought that it was going to be an election about the border and what is going on there and that the caravan was coming. And then it ended up the Democrats did just fine. And they did the same thing again in these midterms where they essentially punted on the issue, and Democrats did just fine. I would have loved to keep the House, but that wasn't in the cards.

But you do see a shift in tone. If you saw Mark Kelly give an interview to "The Washington Post" where he talked about this issue, and he said that Democrats absolutely do not have a grasp on what is going on at the border, but Republicans don't have a good solve for it. Just saying build a wall is not going to be solution. And then there are other Democrats like Henry Cuellar, Ruben Gallego who might mount a challenge to Kyrsten Sinema for her seat in 2024 down in Arizona as well, have been having some pretty harsh words for the Biden administration in how they have been handled it. So I expect that this will be more of an issue for Democrats, but I still think, to Jonathan's point, that this is going to be something that is largely discussed on the GOP side of things.

BAIER: Speaking of the GOP side, Representative Katko who we've had on on this immigration issue wrote, "Biden team flunking security test, the border, China, and more show White House not up to the job." He writes, "The administration continues to get bogged down in political posturing and the semantics of the crisis while failing to acknowledge the litany of threats stemming from criminals, drugs, and

individuals on the terror watchlist crossing our border in record numbers. We must stop talking past each other on this issue." The terror watchlist, Guy, is a big issue. There's some 40 plus that were on that list apprehended in October.

GUY BENSON, POLITICAL EDITOR, TOWNHALL.COM: That we know of, because also in October there were most 64,000 known got-aways, and we have no idea who was included in that group of people, which is just not a sustainable situation for this country from any perspective really, from a national sovereignty perspective, from a national security perspective, from a public safety perspective, from a fairness perspective for people who are trying to come to this country the right way through legal means.

And Jessica might be right that among some Democrats the tone is shifting a little bit, but certainly not from the White House. We heard there from Karine Jean-Pierre that this is a political stunt going to the border. Apparently, any means, any effort to draw attention to the border crisis in the eyes of the White House is a stunt. And she mused, she asked allowed, what's the Republican plan? Just going back to the end of the Trump administration and those policies, which were working relatively well, that's the plan. They refuse to do it. Their policies are the dead opposite of what the Trump people finally landed on, and the results have been catastrophic.

BAIER: As we mentioned earlier, today was Dr. Anthony Fauci's last day, we believe, at the White House podium. At least he said that. And it got heated at one point as the questions focused on the origins of COVID. Take a listen.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: What have you done personally to investigate the origins of COVID?

KARINE JEAN-PIERRE, WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY: Hold on one second. We have a process here. I'm not calling out on people who yell. And you are being -- you are being disrespectful to your colleagues and you're being disrespectful to our guest.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: She has a question. She is asking about the origin of COVID --

JEAN-PIERRE: I hear the question.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Dr. Fauci is the best person to answer the question.

JEAN-PIERRE: I hear your question, but we are not doing this the way you want it. This is disrespectful -- it is.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: It is --

JEAN-PIERRE: It's done. Simon, I'm done. Simon, I'm done. I'm done with you right now.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: All right, so a little bit of process back and forth. That happens sometimes. I have been in that White House press briefing room. But on the issue of COVID, when you look back 30,000 feet, Jonathan, what do you take away in this administration's dealing of it and as Fauci gets ready to leave?

SWAN: Well, Biden, one of their biggest -- if you talk to Biden officials, one of the biggest regrets that they have is effectively declaring victory over the virus last year in that speech. I think it was the July 4th independence from the virus speech. So they came in with very, very grand promises of getting the country past the virus, and then they made that big speech. And then, of course, it really hung around, and a lot of people died.

So, it's been complicated. They haven't -- it hasn't been a perfect record particularly with vaccines in terms of getting the latest technology. And it's a mixed record, but I do think they have done their best under very trying circumstances. I think the communication to the public has left a lot to be desired, particularly in the CDC. But I think that some of this has been very difficult because of the extremely polarized information landscape they are working within.

BAIER: And quickly, Jessica, just listening to people and how they are going to personally deal with COVID, it is different now than it was at the very beginning.

TARLOV: People have moved on, right? This is as close, I think, to normal life as we are going to get. And Anthony Fauci's last words were please be up to date with your shots and your boosters, and I get all that. But the core of the argument that I see playing out at least in terms of politics is, are we going to have an investigation into the origins of COVID? And that always seems like a gimme for Democrats, that we should

just say yes, of course, we should understand what happened here. We knew that all western democracies are involved in gain of function research. It's not going to fall back on us.

And I think that we can say Hunter Biden, that's a little ridiculous, but understanding why millions of people died of this plague seems like a good idea.

BAIER: Obviously, Republicans think both of those investigations are important, but we will follow.

TARLOV: Yes, but they can't get their way on everything.

BAIER: Yes, that's right. Panel, thanks.

TARLOV: Thanks, Bret.

All right, it's time for "Tuesday Tweets." First up, Mike asks "If Trump doesn't receive GOP support, does he run as independent and split the ticket?" That's a really good question. It's a question that I asked in the first debate for candidate Donald Trump long, long ago. But we don't know what former President Trump is doing other than trying to win the GOP nomination as of now.

Next up, Julie Shera wants to know, "What is your favorite family tradition?" My family tries to do some exercise thing, like a turkey trot or something in the morning. We're going to try to do that, too.

Finally, Old Man asks, "I would like to know where Chip is. What really happens when the turkey when cameras leave?" Maybe Jesse should put on this one, and be put on this one to find out. Chocolate and Chip, those were the pardoned turkeys, I agree with you. I want to know what happens to them. Where do they go? What happens to those turkeys? We're going to look into it, or Jesse will.

That's it for us, for SPECIAL REPORT. My all-star panel podcast, you can get that, "Bret Baier Podcast." Thanks for inviting us into your home tonight. That's it for this SPECIAL REPORT, fair, balanced, and unafraid. Jesse, what do you think, figure out where the turkeys really go?

END

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HD **Child Mutilation, Kiddie Puberty Blockers, And Bondage Bears For Kids Will Never Be Acceptable; CME Group CEO Warned FTX Posed Risk To Market Stability; Historic Antebellum Treasure Could Be Torn Down; Anthony Fauci Peddling Same Lies About Masks And Unvaxxed; 59th Anniversary Of The JFK Assassination**

BY Tucker Carlson, Tulsi Gabbard

WC 8,410 words

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LA English

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LP

JESSE WATTERS, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Carlson is up next, speaking of controversies, and always remember one thing, I'm Watters, do it with me, and this is my world.

TUCKER CARLSON, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: A historic landmark, a vital part of country music history is slated to be destroyed. So much American history has been destroyed in the last few years, will this be next? Kid Rock joins us in minutes to explain what might happen and how to stop it.

TD

But first tonight, good evening and welcome to TUCKER CARLSON TONIGHT.

It is a staple of so-called conspiracy theories that at the highest levels of politics and finance, there is a shadowy cabal of pedophiles who use their power to hide the crimes they commit against children. People think that. It sounds pretty far out to us. Too dark and strange to be true and of course, we are not, obviously, endorsing that idea. On the other hand, you can kind of see why people might believe it.

Jeffrey Epstein, for example. Epstein continued to dine with business moguls and heads of state long after he was arrested for having sex with minors. How did he do that? Why didn't nobody say anything? Why did people keep eating with him?

Well, at the very least, we can conclude, based on the evidence that there is a tolerance for pedophilia among some, among the most powerful in our society, a tolerance that you would not find in, say, your average middle class American family. Some of the rich really are different that way. That's clearly true, and in case you need more evidence of that, consider Balenciaga. Balenciaga is what they call a luxury brand.

Balenciaga is a company that sells \$1,100.00 sneakers and cotton sweatshirts for 1,500 bucks to people who've literally run out of things to buy. You're probably not doing your back-to-school shopping at Balenciaga, but some people apparently are.

So, this week, Balenciaga rolled out a new ad campaign on Instagram and the selling point of the ads was sex with children. One photograph showed a very young girl lying face down on a couch with candles, empty wine glasses, and a dog collar on a coffee table in front of her.

Another picture showed the same girl, a toddler, holding a teddy bear dressed in sexual bondage gear, including a leather harness and then, in case you missed the point, we're for pedophilia at Balenciaga, another picture made it explicit. That picture showed pages from a Supreme Court opinion that struck down a law designed to fight child pornography.

Whoever staged the photo shoot made certain to include a portion of that opinion that use the word "sex" or "sexual" four times and of course, that was not an accident. Balenciaga wanted you to notice.

So, this seemed like a big story to us as we told you last night. Here you have a major international retail brand promoting kiddie porn and sex with children and not promoting it subtly, but right out in the open.

No healthy society can tolerate that, and in fact, none ever have tolerated it. There has never been a time in American history where pedophilia was considered anything other than the worst thing, the most horrifying crime imaginable.

Pedophiles famously get killed in prison because even murderers consider them immoral. That's how out of bounds it is and has always been to sexualize children -- it is totally unacceptable, but apparently it's not unacceptable anymore.

Academics have redefined child molesters as minor-attracted persons and the point, of course, is to send the message that actually it's not that big a deal. It's just a different kind of love.

So, maybe not surprisingly given that trend, apart from a few isolated exceptions in the American media, almost all outlets completely ignored Balenciaga's kiddie porn ad campaign.

There was not a single story about it in "The New York Times" this morning, or Jeff Bezos' "Washington Post" or on CNN or NBC. There was no talk of an investigation or a boycott. The usual outraged merchants stayed completely silent because they weren't outraged.

Balenciaga ultimately issued a statement saying it was going to punish the photographer who did the shoot like it was the photographer's fault and they didn't know about it and after that, the story effectively died and that means that the CEO of Balenciaga, a man called Cedric Charbit, it will not become a social pariah for what his company has just done. He will continue, just as Jeffrey Epstein continued, to enjoy his busy social life, totally unpenalized with his many fabulous celebrity friends.

Here he is, for example, with the mayor of New York City, Eric Adams, who looks very excited to be with him. Now, we found that picture, by the way, in less than a minute online. Yet, as far as we know, apart from us on this show, no one has asked Eric Adams about it and it is likely that nobody ever will, and the reason is simple, the media have no interest in covering the sexualization of children.

Their interest, and it's a very intense interest, tellingly so, is in destroying anyone who complains about the sexualization of children or who even notices it. Noticing it, they tell us, is an attack on the LGBT community.

The assumption here, their assumption apparently is that gay people are in favor of molesting kids and of course, in favor of performing genital mutilation on minors, but that's absurd. No normal person is for this, gay or not. It's not anti-gay to oppose kiddie porn or to feel horror at the fact that doctors are cutting the breasts off of healthy teenage girls. These are crimes and most gay people think they're crimes. Why wouldn't they think that?

Protecting children from adults who want to sexually exploit them is a basic human instinct and it's a noble instinct and yet NBC News is doing its best to redefine that instinct as a crime.

Yesterday, NBC brought on its law enforcement expert, by the way, a former Assistant Director of the FBI, to warn viewers that anyone who complains about the sexualization of children will be punished by the legal system, will be sued into bankruptcy and destroyed. Watch this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BEN COLLINS, NBC NEWS SENIOR REPORTER: There is going to be a drag brunch the next day at Club Q and that's a way to get kids to see, "Hey, look, it's a person, doesn't necessarily look like the people that you see every day at the store or whatever, but these are real people with lives and emotions. They like the same stories that you do." There is nothing sexualized about it.

But every time there is one of those now, the Proud Boys show up because there's an account on the Internet called Libs of TikTok that's been pushed by Tucker Carlson and the Babylon Bee in the far right.

CHRIS HAYES, MSNBC NEWS: Tucker, in particular, seems fixated on this anti- queer panic. In addition to his diatribes against drag shows, he has platformed anti-trans activists, used particularly vicious and extreme rhetoric to attack children's hospitals for providing trans youth with medical care.

FRANK FIGLIUZZI, MSNBC NEWS: If he is a consumer of the people we just rattled off from Lauren Boebert to Tucker Carlson, let's get it out. Let's get it out at trial. Let's expose it for what it is. Name it and shame it.

He is a consumer of these people and those people should face civil consequences from the victims.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: So, the former Assistant Director of the FBI is calling for "civil consequences" against anyone who doesn't like the sexualization of children. If you complain about it, you're responsible for the murders that other people commit.

Is that in the legal code? No, it's not, but NBC News is doing its very best to add it. MSNBC has spent the last two days suggesting that because he signed a bill banning teachers from sexualizing kindergartners, Ron DeSantis is somehow tied to a mass shooter in Colorado.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HAYES: Earlier this year, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis infamously signed into law what critics have called the "Don't Say Gay Bill," which prevents some teachers from even discussing the existence of gay and trans folks.

DAVID JOLLY, MSNBC POLITICAL ANALYST: When you have a "Don't Say Gay Bill" in the State of Florida, for instance, or when Ron DeSantis wants to send the police to investigate drag shows.

ALEXI MCCAMMOND, NBC NEWS and MSNBC contributor: The "Don't Say Gay Bill" in Florida, it is certainly something that helps add to his national political profile, but one thing is clear, is they just want to continue demonizing folks and otherizing people.

BRANDY ZADROZNY, NBC NEWS REPORTER: They started moving in the spring to LGBTQ people. Specifically, they were really excited about the "Don't Say Gay Bill" in Florida.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: If you don't want a kindergarten teacher to talk to your kindergartner about sex, you're anti-gay? Ron DeSantis is the spiritual father of a mass murder in Colorado, really?

No matter how you feel about Ron DeSantis or about sex, it's not plausible. In fact, it's ridiculous. Yet, they keep saying it and the question is, why do they keep saying it? Well, they're saying it because that's how determined they are to keep you from talking about the subject.

They will call you an accessory to murder. They'll threaten to sue you into poverty as the Assistant Director of the FBI just did, if you don't shut up. It's pretty weird when you think about it. In fact, it's very weird, but they have nothing else to say because actually children really are being sexually exploited in this country, in some cases for money. It's not hidden. It's in the open and it's totally real.

This summer, for example, Matt Walsh exposed the atrocities underway at Vanderbilt Medical Center in Nashville. A physician there admitted to mutilating the genitals of children because it's a profit center for the hospital. Watch this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DR. SHAYNE TAYLOR, VANDERBILT MEDICAL CENTER: These surgeries make a lot of money. So, female to male chest reconstruction could bring in \$40,000.00 a patient, just on routine hormone treatment I'm only seeing a few times a year can bring in several thousand dollars without requiring lots of visits and labs. It actually makes money for the hospital.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: "It actually makes money for the hospital." Now, if you were a muckraking reporter with a conscience, that would be the story of a lifetime. It's all there on tape. A doctor admitting they're mutilating the genitals of children for money, naming the dollar amounts. How could you pass that up?

But everyone passed it up. No one covered it. Instead, journalists attacked Matt Walsh for uncovering it. Really? What's the motive there?

Nor do they cover what's going on in hospitals across the country, including CHOP, the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, the famous hospital, a hospital that admitted in an e-mail to performing bottom surgery on a minor and slicing off the breast of young women for no medical reason whatsoever. There's no medical justification for that ever, and yet they bragged about doing it.

In Boston, a staffer at the Children's Hospital bragged on tape about two- year-olds preparing to transition. Truly insane. Utterly divorced from legitimate Medicine, but again, it was completely ignored. Here it is.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DR. KERRY MCGREGOR, BOSTON CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL: So, most of the patients that we have in the GEMS Clinic actually know their gender, usually around the age of puberty, but a good portion of children do know as early as seemingly from the womb and they will usually express their gender identity as very young children, some as soon as they can talk. They may say phrases such as "I'm a girl" or "I'm a boy" or "I'm going to be a woman" or "I'm going to be a mom." Kids know very, very early.

So, in the GEMS Clinic, we see a variety of young children all the way down to ages two and three and usually up to the ages of nine.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: That is not science. That doesn't bear any resemblance to science. That's scary and yet the media choose to ignore it. Why? Because no decent person can look that or any of this in the face without wincing, because it's just too awful. It has nothing to do with medicine. It has nothing to do with improving the lives of patients or making this a better country. No. It is a dangerous cult that is causing irreparable harm to children -- not just a few, but a lot.

Now, at some point when the spell breaks, our entire society will recognize this because it's obvious and we will all recoil in shame that we ever tolerated it for a second, but we're not there yet.

In the meantime, we are grateful for people like Jaimee Michell, who has had the bravery to tell the truth about what's happening in the face of unending threats.

Jaimee Michell is the founder of Gays Against Groomers and joins us tonight.

Jaimee, thanks so much for coming on.

Do you find it striking that Balenciaga comes out with an ad campaign promoting pedophilia, I don't think anyone disputes that, and the media spend their time attacking anyone who is offended by the ad campaign. What is that?

JAIMEE MICHELL, FOUNDER, GAYS AGAINST GROOMERS: Yes, it doesn't shock me anymore. You would think it would, but this is just a growing trend from you know, corporate America feeling comfortable pushing this and our community running cover for it.

You know, it's disturbing. Everything seems to be upside down. Obviously, the people that should be condemned are Balenciaga. And, you know, everybody that is behind this push to sexualize and indoctrinate and mutilate kids.

I mean, at first the ad, it was shocking to see, but then, you know, you think about it for another second or two and it all just makes sense. You know, the floodgates seem to be open, and people are just full steam ahead, trying to attack and assault children, which is a red line for everybody. It should be. Well, you would think for everybody. For the majority of people it is, and that's why, you know, there is such a strong visceral reaction coming out against it just as much as there is in support of it.

And I do love that you're saying and I appreciate you for saying that not all of us in the gay community support this. It's actually quite the opposite. There's the fringe minority within our community that does, but they are so loud, because they have the backing of every powerful institution in this country as we're seeing, and we're doing everything we can to stop it.

CARLSON: But this is being justified in your name. You run a group called Gays Against Groomers, you watch television. Anyone who says the word is anti-gay, as if all gays are in favor of this.

The implication is, you're in favor of kiddie porn or sexualizing kids. That seems like a slur to me.

MICHELL: It is, you know, and that's really, really upsetting to see because it's actually doing more harm to us. I want to be very clear that being anti-groomer and anti-child sexualization and mutilation is not anti-gay. It's not anti LGBTQ.

CARLSON: Of course not.

MICHELL: What is LGBTQ though -- right -- I mean, it shouldn't have to be said, but what is anti LGBTQ that these people need to understand and what is putting our community in great danger is, you know, claiming that all of us support this and just associating all of us with this.

You know, saying that groomer is an anti-LGBTQ slur, that is doing irreparable damage to us as a whole and it is putting a really large target on our backs. And unfortunately, you know, the tragedy that happened in Colorado Springs the other night, you know, it was expected and predictable.

We all within Gays Against Groomers saw this coming from a mile away. And sadly, I don't think it's going to stop until we end this evil agenda that is attacking children. And I really -- I really hope that people hear me and hear what we're saying that this is really hurting us.

And you know, Gays Against Groomers, our priority is to protect children. But we also are here to protect our ourselves and defend ourselves because what is happening, what's being done in our name is putting us all in danger.

CARLSON: I think you're exactly right. I think it is obvious.

Jaimee Michell, I appreciate you coming on tonight. Thank you.

MICHELL: Thank you. Thank you.

CARLSON: So what exactly is all of this about big picture? Why would anyone defend this kind of behavior? Many are defending it, make no mistake. They are absolutely defending it, explicitly defending it. Why?

Candace Owens is the host of "The Candace Owens Show" and she joins us now.

Candace, you know, there are a lot of things that go on that we disagree with, I disagree with or whatever. But I never thought this is a line that anyone would even consider crossing at least in public and people are crossing it in a big way. Why?

CANDACE OWENS, POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: Sadly, I expected this and I've been speaking out on this for a long time. I have been adamantly and strongly and loudly opposed to the transgender movement, because it was so obvious that this was the next step, the normalization of pedophilia, the normalization of child porn, pretending that it is just a sexual preference. That's what happens when you add a whole bunch of letters to LBG. This is where you're going to end up.

And I want to speak first and foremost, you said a word that it's scary. You're correct. I'm a parent to two young children. This is scary. There are mothers and fathers watching this program right now who are terrified, because they're scared when they drop their kids off at school. They're not at the gates anymore, they are in the classrooms. There are groomers that are in the classroom that condone this sort of stuff. Half of them are on TikTok, openly talking about it, calling them "their kids," thinking that parents should have no say in what their children are being taught.

Children are being taught that it's okay for them to mutilate their own bodies in this pursuit to some leftist ideology that is never going to occur.

Parents are fearful. You can't just leave the TV on anymore. That's what it's like being a parent. You can't trust that a child program can be left on the background and it's not going to attempt to indoctrinate your child and to make them think that this overt sexualization is normal. That's a scary thing.

Maybe even more frightening, Tucker, is that, like you said, the many celebrities and the many people that have platforms, these weird people that are in executive boardrooms that are focused on children in this perverse way, are silent right now.

They weren't so silent about Kyrie Irving. He got a list of six steps that you had to complete. Balenciaga just gets to say sorry, and that's it? They weren't -- are they going to have to meet with the ADL, Tucker? Are they going to lose a billion dollars in a day, Tucker? Are we going to see celebrities take a stand on something that is incredibly important, as incredibly important as child pornography? I'm waiting. The silence is quite deafening as the left likes to say.

CARLSON: It does illustrate their priorities fairly nicely, I would say.

Candace Owens, great to see you tonight. Thank you.

OWENS: Thank you.

CARLSON: So one of the biggest financial stories really of the past 20 years is the collapse of a cryptocurrency exchange called, FTX. Really a company whose tentacles touched every part of our political class on the Democratic side.

Now, you're being told that the collapse came out of the blue. No one could have seen it coming, oh, but that's not true. One man saw it very clearly, very clearly, the most prescient assessment of FTX there was and this man tried to warn lawmakers. They did it on tape. He joins us next.

Plus, a piece of American history of country music history could soon be torn down. A lot of American history has been demolished recently. Kid Rock wants to end it here and save this piece of our history. He joins us next to explain.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: Well, for the last several years, pretty much every investment bank and business journalist in the United States has joined in the ongoing orgy of praise for a man called Sam Bankman-Fried, the head of the crypto exchange, FTX. Somehow no one noticed that he was basically a child wearing shorts who played video games during interviews and didn't seem to understand how his company was making money, but they lauded him as the world's first future trillionaire. They all fell for it.

Well, not all. A very few didn't. They saw right through it.

Elon Musk, for example, said he took one look at Bankman-Fried and his BS detector went off. And then at much greater length and depth last March, the CEO of CME Group, a man called Terry Duffy met with Sam Bankman-Fried and during that meeting, Duffy did what pretty much nobody else did, maybe nobody else at all ever did, he called Sam Bankman-Fried "absolute fraud" to his face, which of course he turned out to be.

Then in May, Terry Duffy kept going. He tried to warn Congress about FTX and Sam Bankman-Fried. Here's what happened.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. RO KHANNA (D-CA): I'm asking you, sir, you have been saying that FTX has "no capital requirements for participants." I think that's on its face a false statement, given that the CFTC Part 39 Regulation requires capital requirements and FTX does have a capital requirement for margins.

TERRY DUFFY, CEO, CME GROUP: I said their capital requirements are not the same as they are for other institutions. Capital is not the same as margin, Congressman.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: So Ro Khanna, Democrat of Silicon Valley, getting emotional as he defends Sam Bankman-Fried and FTX. Why is that? Maybe someone will do a story to find out why.

But in the meantime, we are grateful to have Terry Duffy joining us. He is the CEO of CME Group, a man who has been completely vindicated.

Why do you -- and thank you so much for coming on tonight. Why do you --and by the way, I should recommend to our viewers there's a whole lot of tape that we don't have time to play of you making this case at great length on the internet and it's worth watching -- but why do you think you're one of the only people to get this right?

DUFFY: I don't know, Tucker. It's a great question, but I appreciate you having me on. I appreciate you playing that piece with the genius from California telling me how crypto markets work and the difference between capital.

What I was referring to is excess margin which CME holds over \$200 billion, where FTX was having regulatory capital, which is absolutely nothing.

So, he didn't know the difference between regulatory capital and margin capital, so it made me laugh. But you know, really dismissive when it comes to a guy like that.

So I don't know why people didn't see it. Tucker? You know, I mean, I said to my team, I said, you know, this is not about crypto, Tucker. This is about him trying to change the world, so he could list every single product under the scam that he was trying to do with crypto.

The crypto is so small, but if he could deploy his model in the US Treasury market and the US agricultural market, can you imagine the damage this human being could have done to our country and the world?

And people literally, literally, were turning a blind eye to it. When you look at the people that were with them, Tucker. Mark Wetjen, the former head of the CFTC, the Chairman, he is walking around with this guy, as his, you know, baggage handler and acting -- giving him credibility.

The former counsel for the CFTC became his general counsel at FTX. The former head of the Ag Committee, Mike Conaway is his consultant working the room across both sides of the aisle.

I mean, it's absolutely an embarrassment what went on here and nobody bothered to look at it. I said he could lose 85 percent of his value in a single day. Tucker. I said that in congressional testimony. I did not know how right I would be in such a short period of time.

It was a completely fraught proposal what he was doing. I knew he was a fraud that day I met him and it was quite easy to pick out.

CARLSON: Well, so you assessed his character and his vibe because you met with him in person, but you also assessed the fundamentals of his company as someone involved in business would. Why did none of the regulators do that? Where was Gary Gensler?

DUFFY: Well, I don't know where Gary Gensler was, but my regulator at the CFTC, I bribe, I asked them, Why in the world, are you invoking the Commodity Exchange Act, Section V, Paragraph B, which says the Commission will entertain innovation. It also says in that same part of the Act, that you will protect market and under surveillance and everything else to protect the consumers that are using those markets?

They were using that. I want to know what is their pressure put on the agency from politicians or not? There are hearings coming up. I hope someone has the courage to take on the Commission and the CFTC and others, and ask them why they were trying to put a round hole in the square peg.

They should have dismissed his proposal out of hand. Instead, I was forced to go into Congress, get berated by people that don't know what they're talking about. And I told them what could potentially happen.

And again, it did happen.

CARLSON: Amazing. I just want to recommend again to our viewers, Terry Duffy is the name of our current guest, and if you want -- if you want a happy evening, look up his assessment of FTX. It is just amazing.

I appreciate your coming on. Terry Duffy, thank you.

DUFFY: Tucker, you're the best. Thank you, sir.

CARLSON: Thank you.

We've lost an awful lot of American history in the last two years -- monuments, statues, customs. When you lose your history, you lose your country because a country's history is the country.

So that effort continues apace. Now, an effort to destroy a piece of American culture and country music history and Kid Rock has decided, no, we've had enough. He joins us next with details.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: Beechwood Hall is an antebellum home near Franklin, Tennessee right outside Nashville. It's one of the few buildings of its size to survive the Civil War. It's a national historic landmark.

In the 1950s, country music legend, Hank Williams bought Beechwood Hall. More recently, country music stars, Faith Hill and Tim McGraw lived there.

Last year, a fund manager from California called Larry Keel bought the property. Now according to neighbors, the property is in complete disrepair as you can see, and a nonprofit that oversees historic preservation called the Heritage Foundation of Williamson County is suggesting that Beechwood Hall could soon be demolished.

Keel, and we're not alleging anything here, just noting, happens to be a major donor to that nonprofit. So, the question is how much American history do you have to lose before you lose the country itself?

In the last two years, we've lost statues and monuments and our customs. So tearing down Hank Williams' house, an antebellum house would constitute not just an assault on the soul of country music, a distinctly American art form, it would be an attack on the country itself, and maybe we've had enough, maybe no more.

Kid Rock appears to feel that way. He is of course a country music legend. He lives in Nashville. He joins us tonight.

Kid Rock, thanks so much for coming on. So you have your own house. Why are you interested in this house and what happens to it?

KID ROCK, SINGER: I think like so many other people in this country, we're sick of seeing history tore to the ground, whether it be in the form of monuments, statues, and now something so important here in Nashville, like the former home of Hank Williams, Beechwood Hall. I also might note, it was also the former home of Tim McGraw and Faith Hill.

You know, where does this end? We kind of all knew that from the beginning, once this fiasco started that it was never going to end. And now we kind of feel like we're under an invasion from the State of California, which we understand in a lot of ways.

I have a lot of friends here that come from the spots, California and New York City. And this is (AUDIO GAP) house because, you know, we feel that a lot of people say it, and they say it under their breath, but they're scared to say it out loud. So once again, I'll be the guy.

Because you know, they come here leaving these woke policies from the cities, you know, for better schools, lower taxes, lower crime. We've talked about it, you've talked about a million times, and we kind of tell them leave your effing politics at the state line from where you're coming from.

And this is just one more example of somebody from California who, as I understood, gave a handshake to people in the community and through this foundation that he is a donor for and now he basically seems like another avenue to tear it down.

And I don't think there's anything more important in country music, if not American music than Hank Williams, the greatest songwriter of all times, and I think that other songwriters would be in agreement.

CARLSON: So can I just ask, I mean, we don't know the motive and we don't have this man on the show tonight, but why would you move to a new place and then want to tear down its history? Doesn't that seem kind of a weird thing to do?

KID ROCK: Yes, we call them dumb liberals.

CARLSON: Yes. Well, that's one explanation. Hank Williams, this is --

KID ROCK: I know.

CARLSON: I think that's fair. That's fair. That says it all. So Hank Williams is -- if there's an icon in Nashville, it's Hank Williams, okay. So is Nashville as -- right, exactly, and this was his former property. So as a community, is Nashville rising up against this to preserve this historic property? Are you the only one?

KID ROCK: I think, well, I'm kind of -- you know, thanks to you and people that care about these things, I've just kind of become the person to put it out there. So, I think now that you're broadcasting the story to all of America, I think there's going to be many, many people to get on board. They can go to SaveBeechwood.org, and I think you're going to see a lot more country music stars, musicians, just great people in the community that want to preserve this for the next generation to come and generations beyond that.

CARLSON: Well, exactly. I mean, we both believe in private property, of course and defend it. But there are some monuments that aren't really yours. You're their custodian, you know, you hold them till the next generation comes and this sounds like one of them.

I appreciate it, Kid Rock.

KID ROCK: And when you say, when you come into it with a handshake kind of thing and say, I'm going to preserve this and then you start weaseling around to do other things, you know, we hope to get this resolved and you know, and in a good manner, but if not, we can we can get some hillbilly going on, too.

CARLSON: Well, I'll leave that to you to solve, but thank you for bringing this to our attention. The country has lost so much of its history. How about, no more.

Great to see you, Kid Rock.

We've got a documentary on that man called "Life of a Rock Star: Kid Rock." It's on FOX Nation.

So 81-year-old Tony Fauci, the highest paid employee in the entire Federal government headlined his last press conference today and very quickly, it got very strange, chaos broke out when someone asked one of the most basic questions of all, "Where did COVID come from?" It destroyed our economy killed millions of people around the world. Should we know where it came from?

Wait until you see how the Biden administration responded to that question. It tells you a lot. We've got the tape, straight ahead.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: So when the COVID pandemic began in early 2020, everyone wanted to believe Tony Fauci. We did, we had him on the show, actually. And then he started lying in ways that were so obvious that you couldn't ignore it and you began to ask yourself, "What is this about?" The guy in charge of COVID response is lying about COVID. Why?

He lied about herd immunity. Then he lied about masks, and then he repeatedly lied about vaccines. You can't lie if you're a public health official, but he kept doing it.

Today, Tony Fauci who is now 81 held his last press conference and appropriately enough, he decided to tell one final lie about masks. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REPORTER: What do you say about the word mask now being a pejorative in some communities?

DR. ANTHONY FAUCI, DIRECTOR, NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ALLERGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES: No, it shouldn't be. I mean, you're absolutely right. I mean, I know sometimes when you walk in and you have a mask and nobody has a mask, you kind of feel guilty. You shouldn't feel guilty. You look terrific.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: That's the question from the Press Corps? "What do you say about the word mask becoming a pejorative?" What? That's media coverage? That's embarrassing.

It's weird, too. People who love masks? Really? They don't work very well. Everyone knows that. The science shows that, but for some reason Tony Fauci is still pretending it makes sense to wear a mask.

He also pretended once again that you will die unless you get 'rona vaccine. For real. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

FAUCI: The real danger is in the people who have not been vaccinated. So that's where we expect, if we're going to see a problem this winter, it's going to be among those people.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: Oh, it's a pandemic of the unvaccinated, is it? This is insane. This is not science. In fact, all the science shows just the opposite. It's more risky for most people to get the vaccine than to get COVID at this point. That is not speculation. The data from a bunch of different countries, UK and Israel included prove that. But Fauci somehow doesn't know that?

Remember, this is the guy who was funding bat coronavirus experiments in Wuhan, which at this point seemed pretty likely to be the cause of the entire pandemic. So a reporter for "The Daily Caller" decided to ask Fauci about that because how could you not ask. "Were you involved in creating this virus?" Or "Where did it come from? Shouldn't we know?" Millions have died, it wrecked our economy.

But you're not allowed to ask that question, because then Joe Biden's glass ceiling shattering publicist rushed in and shut the whole thing down. Watch this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REPORTER: Dr. Fauci, what have you done to investigate the origin of COVID?

KARINE JEAN-PIERRE, WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY: Hold on a second. We have a process here. I'm not calling out on people who yell, and you're being -- you're being -- you're being disrespectful to your colleagues, and you're being disrespectful to our guest. I will not call on you if you yell and also you're taking time off the clock, because Dr. Fauci has to leave in a couple of minutes.

I'm done. I'm not going to -- I'm not getting into a back and forth with you.

REPORTER: She asked a valid question. She's asking about the origin of COVID --

JEAN-PIERRE: I hear the question.

REPORTER: And Dr. Fauci is the best person to answer that question.

JEAN-PIERRE: I hear your question, but we're not doing this the way you want it. This is the disrespect --

REPORTER: Respect on --

JEAN-PIERRE: It is. I'm done, Simon, I'm done. Simon, I'm done. I'm done with you right now.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: It's unbelievable, and the rest of the supine Press Corps sit there with their weird little masks on and say nothing, and it's up to some guy from Africa to point out the obvious, which is what? It is the most legitimate question there is? Where did COVID come from? And what are you doing to find out? Shut up. Okay. This can't go on forever.

Tulsi Gabbard knows that. She is a former presidential candidate, and of course, a Member of Congress. She joins us for her first interview as a FOX News contributor, which we are grateful that she now is.

Congressman, thank you so much for coming on.

TULSI GABBARD, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CONTRIBUTOR: Thank you, Tucker.

CARLSON: So it does seem like a pretty basic question, maybe the most basic question, isn't now the time to find out where this came from? Shouldn't we know?

GABBARD: Frankly, it's the most important question because the most dangerous thing facing the American people, and frankly, the world is the fact that people like Dr. Fauci and those in power refuse to even acknowledge that there is a very real possibility, even a probability that the origins of COVID came from the kinds of so-called scientific gain-of-function research, this dangerous research that is funded by American taxpayers at the behest of the likes of Dr. Fauci that was occurring in China and other countries around the world and even here in the United States.

This is what needs to be investigated and this dangerous research, which Fauci refuses to acknowledge or speak about every time he is questioned about it, this is what needs to end because it is endangering the people of this country and people around the world.

CARLSON: I thought that the Press Secretary's description of Fauci was the most telling, "our guest." This is not a guest, this is government official whose salary we pay.

GABBARD: Exactly right.

CARLSON: And we have the right to hear the answer to the question, but the White House is acting like the serfs should just shut up. We have no right to ask it. I mean, this does not look like democracy to me at all.

GABBARD: You're exactly right. She is talking about him as a guest when, as you said he works for the American people, but not for much longer, but we can't deny the danger that he has created for the American people, not only with regards to his refusal to answer questions about the origins of COVID and gain-of-function research and how it is very likely continuing on that we're paying for.

But also the other big lies that he has continued to propagate even in his press conference today, you know about masks. He is telling people mask up knowing full well that when people hear that they're going to throw on a cloth mask or a mask, like the one he's wearing in that picture that you're showing or a paper mask knowing that they don't do anything to prevent someone from getting COVID or spreading COVID.

The only things that do that are actually respirators, the N95, tightly held N95 or KN95. They continue to lie to the American people and it is putting the American people at risk.

CARLSON: It's true. That's why no one wears a paper mask in the US funded bio labs in Ukraine. They wear respirators.

Tulsi Gabbard, great to see tonight. Thank you so much for that.

GABBARD: Thanks, Tucker.

CARLSON: So today is, you may not know this, today is the 50th anniversary of the JFK assassination. That was, of course, November 22, 1963 in Dallas. Walter Cronkite famously broke the news to the country.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

WALTER CRONKITE, CBS NEWS ANCHOR: From Dallas, Texas, the flash apparently official, President Kennedy died at 1:00 PM Central Standard Time, two o'clock Eastern Standard Time, some 38 minutes ago.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: So that was nearly 60 years ago. Every person involved in it, including Walter Cronkite is long dead. And yet, there are more than 15,000 documents related to the JFK assassination that remain hidden tonight by the Federal government. What is that? You don't have to be a conspiracy nut to ask why?

Why is the Biden ministration still blocking the release of these files? They need to do classification review, after 60 years. So the deadline to release them is just two weeks away. It's December 15th.

Gerald Posner has written an exhaustive book on this topic, the Kennedy assassination. He's written many other books. He joins us tonight.

Gerald, thanks so much for coming on.

GERALD POSNER, INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALIST: Good to be with you.

CARLSON: So, why -- now you -- and you wrote a book saying you believe essentially, the Warren Commission was pretty accurate in its description. You're deeply versed in the story. Why in the world, would they be holding on to 15,000 JFK documents 60 years later?

POSNER: You know, well, first of all, Tucker, and you know this very well, it's the way Intelligence Agencies operate. So 70 percent of those documents belong to the CIA, the rest of the FBI, some at the DEA. They claim that they would disclose sources, kids who were in their 20s, who are CIA assets back in the 60s, and then they're now in their 80s. It would disclose in some cases, safe houses. Believe it or not, they say they're using the same safe houses in some countries.

The DEA doesn't want the names disclosed of confidential informants on big drug cases. And that would, you know, wants to be examined, because was the mob involved in killing Kennedy? So there are all types of reasons.

But the real thing is what you said a moment ago, that Biden will make a decision in December. He made a decision in January that didn't release them and Trump had an opportunity to get these out in 2017, and passed on them as well.

And so the Intelligence Agencies, the apparatus. You know, they work very, very well, to make their argument to the people in power. We need a little bit more time. And this is absolutely crazy. Fifty-nine years, it's time for these files to be released in their entirety so researchers, historians, and others and the American people can see what's been so important to keep hidden.

CARLSON: You've got to wonder about motive here. I mean, either the Intel Agencies were involved in Kennedy's killing, or they want you to think they were involved in Kennedy's killing, because why else would they do this?

POSNER: Well, one of the things is that, you know, there's a real question as to whether the CIA, the assassin, Lee Harvey Oswald, guess where he was? He wasn't in Dallas three weeks before the assassination. He was in Mexico City trying to get to Cuba where he thought the real revolution was taking place.

He had defected to the Soviet Union. He thought, the Russians, they ruined communism. I'm going to where the real deal is, that is in Havana, and he got turned down in Mexico City. So it comes back to America. And the question is whether the CIA who was spying on the Cuban and the Soviet missions in Mexico City, whether they had tape recordings or pictures of Oswald, whether they heard him boast that he might actually try to do something against the President, that's been reported in the Cuban mission.

And then when Oswald came back into the US in early October, they didn't tell anyone. The CIA kept it a secret. They didn't tell the FBI. That would be very embarrassing and damning for them. It wouldn't be surprising. Remember, this is the agency, the CIA, that missed the Bay of Pigs. They missed the Tet Offensive. They missed what was going on in the Yom Kippur War in Israel. Then they missed the fact that the Iran is about to fall to the Ayatollah, they thought it was safe.

They didn't know the Soviet Union was going to invade Afghanistan. They didn't know the Soviet Union was about to fall in 1991. They missed 9/11. And then they got it wrong in Iraq in 2003 about weapons of mass destruction.

So why are we not surprised that they might get something wrong here on the assassination of a President in 1963, and not want us to know about it.

CARLSON: Let's send them billions more on the black budget and let them interfere in our elections. That seems like an appropriate --

POSNER: The black budget is only \$56 billion right now, most of which we don't know what it goes for. It's the largest segment of money in the United States budget that's given away to a group and they sort of decide how they're going to use it without any oversight. It seems pretty scary to me.

CARLSON: It doesn't sound like a democracy to me.

Gerald, thank you so much. Great to see you tonight.

POSNER: Thanks, Tucker.

CARLSON: Speaking of secrets, the Paul Pelosi story has pretty much disappeared from the media, whatever Paul Pelosi was doing that night. The incident did reveal a major problem in big cities in this country and that of course, is drug addiction, which fuels homelessness, which fuels crime, and in fact, at this stage it is starting to unravel society.

So there is one reporter in California who has been unblinkingly chronicling homelessness and what causes it. He's not a liar like everybody else. He joins us after the break.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MICHAEL SHELLENBERGER, AUTHOR, "APOCALYPSE NEVER": . both on environment and on homelessness where people that are just -- they are radical leftists, they have a radical left-wing view, but they then go and position themselves with an identity as an advocate for the homeless or a climate change activist.

CARLSON: Right.

SHELLENBERGER: Or you know a Civil Rights activist or something that then they use as a way to get legitimacy among the mainstream society even while advancing goals that are totally anathema to really -- and really aimed at undermining the pillars of civilization.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: Michael Shellenberger, even better at an hour. It is on FOX Nation.

We will see you tomorrow night.

END

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RE usa : United States | dallas : Dallas | namz : North America | uss : Southern U.S. | ustx : Texas

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HD **The Psychology Behind Hating Thanksgiving; Whiny Libs Are Only Ones Who Hate Thanksgiving; We're Thankful For Fauci Being Ignored; We're Thankful For Parents Standing Up For Their Kids; We're Thankful Liz Cheney Was Shown The Boot; We're Thankful For GOP Leaders Standing Up To Woke Inc; We're Thankful For The GOP Winning The Popular Vote; We're Thankful For Ol' Nance Surrendering The Gavel; We're Thankful That 50 Years Of Work Was Rewarded; Judge Grants Plaintiffs' Request To Depose Dr. Anthony Fauci In Relation To Great Barrington Declaration Criticizing COVID-19 Lockdowns; Cryptocurrency Exchange FTX And Its CEO Sam Bankman-Fried Go To Bankruptcy Court; Law Enforcement Officials Still Have No Suspect In Murders Of Four University Of Idaho Students**

BY Laura Ingraham, Charlie Hurt

WC 6,916 words

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SN Fox News: The Ingraham Angle

SC INGANG

LA English

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LP

SEAN HANNITY, FOX NEWS HOST: Thank you for making this show possible. Unless news breaks, this is my final show before Thanksgiving. We have so much to be grateful and thankful for. Not the least of which of you giving us this camera every night. We can't thank you enough. And now I'll be cooking fried turkey for my kids and family.

Let not your heart be troubled. Laura, how do you cook your turkey?

TD

LAURA INGRAHAM, FOX NEWS HOST: OK, do I really need to go to this place again? OK.

HANNITY: Yes.

INGRAHAM: You sent me a turkey fryer last year.

HANNITY: I did? Did you use it?

INGRAHAM: Yes. You don't even remember. You and I have been friends for so long, you don't even remember the gifts you sent me?

HANNITY: I said everyone gifts.

INGRAHAM: Yes.

HANNITY: That's kind of the usual pattern of mine. But it's great - the Butterball Masterbuilt Turkey Fryer, you can use it indoors, it's safe. And it is the juiciest, best, most delicious turkey ever.

INGRAHAM: OK, first of all, you said you were going to send me a photo of you actually frying your turkey last year. Let me just say to the audience out there, that photo never came. OK. That was never sent. Never.

HANNITY: I haven't perhaps tweeted out me frying a turkey. I will do - I will send you a picture this year.

INGRAHAM: No. This is all a charade. This is a charade. It's never happened. You were so--

(CROSSTALK)

HANNITY: I gave it to free like you're a liberal wanting a handout.

INGRAHAM: Well, what can I say? Hannity, they tell me I have to go, because we're running out of time.

HANNITY: Go.

INGRAHAM: But I'm thankful for your friendship.

HANNITY: You have lot to breaking for. Happy Thanksgiving. Same here.

INGRAHAM: I'm thankful for Hannity in this incredible handoff. All right, Hannity Thanksgiving.

All right. I'm Laura Ingram. This is "The Ingraham Angle." Thanks for being with us tonight. "Grateful not Hateful," that's the focus of "Tonight's Angle."

All right, once again, the usual suspects on the Left are seething and they're rooting about the inherent awfulness of another American tradition. Writing in Psychology Today, Christopher Ferguson notes that, "It's the season for Thanksgiving, and we can look forward to some members of the glitterati giving thanks by dumping on the holiday itself. We're told that the holiday celebrates genocide and news articles repeat the myth that the first Thanksgiving celebrated a massacre of Native Americans." Of course, that's all absurd.

The only thing that makes the Left in America truly happy, this time of year especially, is grousing about how we're all living - I don't know, one's stolen land.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: You who call yourself an activist, an ally, an accomplice. for social justice. We see you making plans for Thanksgiving.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I don't celebrate a proper Thanksgiving, because the cultural demolition and genocide of the indigenous people of this land is not something I feel like celebrating.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Celebrating Thanksgiving is celebrating racist genocide. Gobble, gobble (bleep).

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: How about celebrate taking a shower every now and then. What a shame she won't be joining your Thanksgiving table. But on the bright side, most Americans see all this complaining, it's just another exercise in self-loathing, by spoiled entitled ingrates. And most people will happily celebrate Thanksgiving with family and friends.

And as 2022 draws to a close, "The Angle" is grateful for so much. Number one, we defeated the man who was behind more COVID lies than Hunter Biden was behind prostitutes. Dr. Anthony Fauci always wrong, but never in doubt, had the nerve to show himself at the White House today. His lounge act is way past its expiration date.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DR. ANTHONY FAUCI, DIRECTOR, NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ALLERGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES: --have correct information who take science seriously, who don't have strange way out theories about things, but who base what they say on evidence and data need to speak up more, because the other side that just keeps putting out misinformation and disinformation, seems to be tireless in that effort. And it's going to be very difficult.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: More on that in a bit with his chief Nemesis at the White House and one of his targets. But number two, we're grateful for all those parents who work tirelessly to fight exposing the school boards for being radical cesspools of sexual deviancy and racial hatred.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Bathrooms still not saying for girls. Porn books are still on the shelf of school libraries, and parent's parental rights are still being ignored. Cultural Marxists are hard at work to brainwash our children.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Focus on raising our rock bottom test scores and do away with exposing minors to sexually explicit material.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Where's the Math, where's the reading, where is the history, where are the strong values?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: Now more responsible adults are running for school board positions and refusing to stay silent. That's really great news. And politicians now know that parent power, it's a real thing.

Third, we're grateful that the defeat of - for the defeat of the woman who speaks like she's kind of suffering from appendicitis.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. LIZ CHENEY (R-WY): We laid out very consistently and I think thoroughly, including in our last hearing where we walked through President Trump's intent at each stage of this effort to overturn the election.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: Good riddance to the Bush-Cheney years once and for all.

Fourth, we're thrilled this Thanksgiving that conservatives, led by Ron DeSantis, stood up to Disney and other woke corporations when those businesses turned on Middle America. Things had gone so far into the toilet for Disney after it injected itself into the gender fluidity issue, that this week, we learned, that the company was firing its CEO, and bringing back its retired CEO Bob Iger to try to fix things.

Fifth, despite ballot harvesting, early voting and everything else that Democrats tried to do to game the system, Republicans won the popular vote in House races for the first time since 2016. Now that happened, in part, because we saw an exciting new generation of populist candidates running across the country, including Hispanics and African Americans.

Six for the second time in 12 years liberal House Speaker Nancy Pelosi is going to be forced to give the gavel to a new Republican Speaker. Now we're going to miss her, of course, I can't say otherwise, especially her press conferences and her assorted antics.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. NANCY PELOSI (D-CA): As a Catholic, I resent your using word hate in a sentence that addresses me.

My whole mission in Congress is about the children, for the children. In the arena, you have to be prepared to take a punch, have to be prepared to throw a punch for the children, for the children.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: Well, the good thing for Nancy is now she's going to have a lot of time on her hands to do other important work. Like poring through that footage from police body cams in her home security system from night her husband was viciously attacked. If anyone can get answers there, Nancy can.

Seventh, we have huge gratitude for the fact that the court finally ended the scourge of Roe vs. Wade. Now this issue was never something that should have been read into the Constitution and now it's properly left up to the states. We can all thank 50 years of hard work on the part of the pro-Life community that never gave up, never gave up on standing for life. This outcome was worth it, no matter what the political fallout. Period.

Eight, on the thank thankfulness list we cannot forget the red state governors who continue to stand as a beacon of sanity and common sense to the rest of America. As states like Illinois and California, they continue to bleed population and breed crime. Well, Florida, Texas, South Dakota, Tennessee, Mississippi, Georgia, they're doing it right. They let us by opening up during COVID and they're leading us still.

Governor DeSantis' 20 point reelection win was a stunner. Florida is no longer a swing state, that's because of him. Neither is Texas, by the way, flipping to Democrat anytime soon. Governor Greg Abbott and Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick, both cruised to reelection.

Ninth, thank you to Lee Zeldin's strong run for governor in New York. The GOP flipped four state seats in the Empire State with more to come and 2024. Now, this was a big step and everyone should send Zeldin a thank you note for campaigning as hard as he did.

And the Golden State, liberals felt the heat when we won 11 seats in the House with one more that still hasn't been called. Next, the governorship of California and the State House races, we got to start somewhere, though.

And culturally on the gratitude scale, there were some bright spots as well, which leads me to number tenth. More adults finally see the inherent evil in butchering children's reproductive organs and messing with their hormonal makeup. We're seeing hospitals like Vanderbilt's Transgender Health Clinic, pressured into stopping these surgeries for children, and states are taking action to ban the surgeries for minors in their own areas altogether.

Alabama, Arizona they've already have bans in place on gender affirming care and that's for kids. And many more plan to follow suit. If we're successful in stopping these, "surgeries on children," we're going to hear fewer painful stories like this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CHLOE COLE, FORMER TRANSGENDER TEEN: Well, I was 12 years old when I first started to experience gender dysphoria. Pretty much all the medical professionals kept pushing the idea that transition is the only path forward to treating dysphoria.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: Wow. Eleventh on the thankfulness list, we're now seeing even some on the Left waking up to the reality of and the danger of TikTok.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. MARK WARNER (D-VA): Donald Trump was right. I mean, TikTok is a enormous threat. If you're a parent, and you've got a kid on TikTok, I would be very, very concerned. All of that data that your child is inputting and receiving is being stored somewhere in Beijing.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: By the way, Mike Pompeo said this in 2020 on "The Ingraham Angle."

And we're even seeing cultural victories at the box office. We're thankful for Top Gun where Maverick was the highest grossing film of the year, the fifth highest grossing movie of all time, bringing in \$1.44 billion at the box office worldwide.

Now this movie was at its core kind of a tribute to the Reagan era, when we had no hesitation, remember, about calling out communism and standing for the USA.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Captain Pete Maverick Mitchell, let me be perfectly blunt, you were not my first choice. We were here at the request of Admiral Kazansky, aka Iceman. He seems to think that you'd have something left to offer the Navy.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: But that is, I can't imagine.

TOM CRUISE, AMERICAN ACTOR: With all due respect, sir, I'm not a teacher. I just want to manage expectations.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: And finally, on a personal note, I have an enormous amount to be grateful for. First, my children, two teenagers and one on the cusp, while they make life worth living day in and day out. And of course, my real friends who love and support us, all of us as a family unconditionally.

And come on, my "Ingraham Angle" crew, all of them. I love each and every one of them. It takes a lot to put on the show every night. And I'm just the one that you see on camera. But we all together make it work. I'm so grateful for all of them.

And finally, I'm grateful for all of you, the viewers, who've been with us from the very beginning and who stay with us night after night as we try to inform and entertain all at the same time. Thank you. And that's "The Angle."

Joining me now is Florida Congressman Byron Donalds; Charlie Hurt, Washington Times Opinion Editor and Fox News Contributor; and Charlie Kirk, Founder and President of Turning Point USA.

Charlie Hurt, let's start with you. What should the American public be most thankful for this season, given all of the challenges we're seeing before us?

CHARLIE HURT, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: Well, first of all, I have to say, Laura, that was a beautiful tribute. And you know, anybody who doesn't wake up every day and count their blessings, the way you just did, is missing out on a really wonderful way he go through life.

But speaking about politics, you know, I have to say the thing that I am most grateful for, and I think that Americans should be most grateful for is, we're starting to see in the last couple of years, a shattering of this Democratic strategy of what they call identity politics, which is really basically old time, segregationists who use racial differences to pit people against one another and-- in order for to make political gains, and Democrats have been doing it for a long time.

And what we saw with Lee Zeldin in New York and what we saw with Ron DeSantis in Florida, and we saw with Donald Trump along the border, that racist tactic that Democrats deploy very effectively is getting shattered. And I think that that is a magnificent thing for this country, on so many levels, not the least of which is that it's just absolutely a disgusting tactic to begin with.

INGRAHAM: And Congressman Donalds the presumptive next Speaker of the House, Kevin McCarthy, he went to the border today, which I thought was a incredibly brilliant idea to deliver an ultimatum. Watch this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. KEVIN MCCARTHY (R-CA): Secretary Mayorkas testified under oath that, yes, the border is secure. I'm here to tell you it is not. If Secretary Mayorkas does not resign, House Republicans will investigate every order, every action and every failure will determine whether we can begin Impeachment inquiry.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: Congressman Donalds an impeachment of Mayorkas. Will the result be a border that is enforced or is it more political gamesmanship?

REP. BYRON DONALDS (R-NY): Well, to be blunt with you, I think that if you move that way with Mayorkas, it sends a trade signal to the Biden administration. Now they're going to try to talk to off and say that there's nothing to see here. But this is the right move.

We cannot waste time any more when you have 200 plus thousand people coming across our border every single month, thousands per day. The country can't take it. We got to get down to business of being serious. The next big piece of this is, when it comes to spending bills in DC, we have to make this a staple of anything that gets approved from House Republicans.

If we're not going to stand strong about funding with respect to Homeland Security, and making sure that the Biden Administration actually secures the border, just going after Mayorkas alone is not enough. But it's a great first step from Kevin McCarthy.

INGRAHAM: My concern, Charlie Kirk, is that this is like a whack a mole game. You get rid of Mayorkas, he's just replaced with someone essentially just like him. It's not like they're going to turn and put Stephen Miller in charge of the border. I mean, that's not going to happen. Right? So - that would be fun, though, ain't it? So what happens next in the Biden Administration if the Republicans go down this road?

CHARLIE KIRK, TURNING POINT USA, FOUNDER: Yes, look, I think Congress needs defense in the funding. I think they need to isolate which fights they want to do most. And this new Congress needs to understand that the invasion happening on our Southern border is affecting not just our sovereignty, but our children when it comes to fentanyl; wages when it comes to millions of people coming across the southern border.

And when it comes to exactly how to hold this accountable, I love the strategy of first and foremost going after the cabinet officials. This is finally trying to hold that fourth branch of government accountable using the check and balance, using the oversight abilities. Because usually these cabinet officials, they kind of get a free pass. But we actually name a name of the people that have allowed this to occur. This I think is a great use of time.

And don't just do Mayorkas, also Merrick Garland for his weaponization of the Department of Justice, the Department of Education and their collusion with the National Education Association and the National School Board Association to then call moms and dads domestic terrorists. We can't forget about any of these things.

But I think that this incoming Congress has a mandate brought to you by parents that gave them a 5 million person popular vote victory, despite what the media tells you. It was an overwhelming popular vote victory to hold this fourth branch of government accountable.

INGRAHAM: And Charlie Hurt, this news is just breaking moments ago. AXIOS is reporting that the Colorado shooting suspect is non-binary. You kind of were getting that from some of the early reporting on his background. But Charlie, the Left Wing activists have been spinning this as a murder that was spurred by parents and their concern about gender fluidity and transgenderism pushed in schools.

And in fact, we find out it is a non-binary individual who carried out, allegedly, these heinous murders of innocent men in this club.

HURT: Well, I'm proud to say I don't know what non-binary means. But I do think it's - this is right in line with everything that Democrats do in terms of turning voters against one another based on race. It's no different. There's no tragedy that that occurs anywhere in this country, that Democrats aren't - don't seize upon and try to weaponize and turn into some sort of political advantage for themselves. And it is really, really disgusting.

And I think that if Republicans take control and focus on the issues that matter to people like the border, like schools, like these, like crime, focus on these serious issues, they're going to have, they're going to find voters very grateful to them for doing that.

INGRAHAM: Well, Congressman Donalds, essentially, what was going on in all the front page reporting on these horrific murders at this club, was that people like Ron DeSantis were, kind of, in some way kind of tangentially responsible for pushing the ineptly named, "Don't Say Gay Bill." That that was really kind of the hate that was fueling these types of attacks, and targeting of gay men, especially at this club. And then we find out that the facts are absolutely opposite of what they were saying, but they got - the they spewed the bias before we actually learned the facts here, Congressman,

DONALDS: Look, I'm not surprised. Frankly, I'm sick of media when they do this kind of stuff. Instead of waiting for the facts, and then letting the facts lead you, they all always push their narratives. The vast majority of the time they are wrong. And then they go on as if nothing ever happened.

But look we were getting a sense of what was really happening with this situation, because I promise you, if the shooter was somebody that fit their narrative, their face would have been all over the place, that name would have been all over the place. They would have been in all their social media accounts.

But when the facts on the ground did not support that, they started getting very, very quiet. And now we're seeing the rest of the story. I'm sick of it, the American people are sick of it. Our country can't survive this, Laura. We got to get to facts and facts alone, that should be guiding our decision making and our news media, not narratives that support the Radical Left agenda.

INGRAHAM: Yes, common sense, pragmatism, that would be nice every once in a while. Panel, thank you and Happy Thanksgiving to all of you.

Now Dr. Anthony Fauci just delivered what was billed as his final appearance from the White House podium. The man who Fauci turned into his nemesis during the Trump Administration, Dr. Scott Atlas is here next, with his final farewell himself. So stay with us.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

INGRAHAM: All right, just when you thought it was safe to return to pre- pandemic normality, the doomsday groundhog himself popped out of his little hole to report that there'll be at least six more weeks of COVID.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DR. ANTHONY FAUCI, DIRECTOR, NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ALLERGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES: The real danger is in the people who have not been vaccinated. So that's where we expect if we're going to see a problem this winter, it's going to be among those people. So my message and my final message - may be the final message I give you from this podium is that please, for your own safety for that of your family, get your updated COVID-19 shot as soon as you're eligible to protect yourself, your family and your community.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: Brought to you by Pfizer. Joining me now is the one man who stood up to Fauci, Dr. Scott Atlas, Former White House COVID Advisors, Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution.

Dr. Atlas, wasn't this a fitting farewell for Dr. Fauci? Although he said it might be the last time he stands at the podium. Don't we know now that those people who are getting COVID tend to be people who have

been vaccinated and triple and sometimes quadruple boosted? Least everyone I know who's getting COVID has had three, four, and sometimes five shots.

DR. SCOTT ATLAS, FORMER WHITE HOUSE COVID ADVISER: Yes, Laura, it is very fitting to hear this kind of constant mantra of almost nonsensical utterings by Dr. Fauci. You know, we know by now the data shows that the vaccines, although they do have pretty good protection for high risk people and elderly against death, they do not stop the spread of the infection, they do not stop you from getting COVID - the SARS infection.

And the risk benefit ratio for people other than high risk is very different. You have to decide if it's appropriate to take an experimental drug if you have a low risk of a serious illness, particularly children. In fact, anyone who recommends that children - healthy children should get the vaccine - an experimental drug injected into them, you know, I think there's a question about medical ethics there.

Are we as a society going to start going down the pathway of even if you believe that it stops the spread of infection, which would be contrary to science. Are we going to use our children as shields for infections? I mean, this is really uncharted territory for what supposed to be a civilized society.

INGRAHAM: And what we know now about the true lethality of the virus, even of those under the age of, I believe, it was 70, when we looked at that progression that was done recently, it was infinitesimally small for those who are not of high BMI, hypertensive disorder, diabetic, you have to have multiple comorbidities. In most cases - overwhelmingly most cases, Professor Atlas for this to have taken place.

And yet, he's still pushing this, this multiple shot. I mean, I find the whole thing to be, I mean, borderline insane at this point.

ATLAS: It's frightening to have people in power that don't know what they're talking about. They use fear to sway the public instead of data. You don't often hear, in fact, you may never have heard Dr. Fauci use data. And you know, this is very frightening. Two-thirds of people in the United States who died from COVID - two-thirds have greater than or equal to six comorbidities.

Healthy people do not have a significant risk from a serious illness from COVID. That's a fact. That's not opinion. It's improving the world over. I think we should talk about Dr. Fauci his legacy, if I have a minute, because he's got a very important legacy.

Number one, he presided over the biggest failure in public health history over two different presidential administrations. Number two, his policies were implemented and those policies shifted the burden of this illness from the affluent to the poor, and incurred massive harm on our children - psychological damage you, long lasting damage, an obesity crisis.

And we really haven't seen the tip of the iceberg on that damage to children. And again, worse on low income and poor kids.

And then thirdly and perhaps most importantly, Dr. Fauci, Dr. Birx, his underling, and many other people at the CDC and the talking heads on TV have destroyed trust in public health. We have a huge challenge as a country to fix what happened in his wake.

INGRAHAM: And Dr. Atlas, Ralph Baric and gain of function research debate, the reckoning with Professor Baric hasn't happened either given his advocacy for gain of function. But Dr. Atlas, it's great to see you, as always, and happy Thanksgiving.

And breaking just a few hours ago, a judge in the case of Missouri v Biden has granted plaintiffs' request to depose Dr. Fauci tomorrow about his role censoring the Great Barrington Declaration, its authors and others who criticized his COVID approach. One of the authors of the declaration and a target of Fauci's, friend of the show, Dr. Jay Bhattacharya, joins us now. He's a professor at Stanford School of Medicine. Dr. Bhattacharya, what's the most important question you hope your lawyers pose to Dr. Fauci?

DR. JAY BHATTACHARYA, STANFORD SCHOOL OF MEDICINE: Dr. Fauci and the entire Biden administration used their power to censor legitimate scientific discussion about COVID policy on the web. Your previous guest, my friend, Dr. Scott Atlas was censored. I was censored in a YouTube video that I did with Governor DeSantis. Countless of other scientists who disagreed with Dr. Fauci were on the receiving end of a suppression campaign, in fact, a smearing and demonization campaign.

I would like to know, what role did he play in inducing social media to suppress scientific discussion online? And we know that he was in contact. In fact, there's a FOIA email of him interchanging, exchanging information with Mark Zuckerberg, the CEO of Facebook, where Zuckerberg offers his help. Much of that email is redacted so the public can't see exactly what they wrote. I would love to know exactly how they spoke to each other, how Dr. Fauci directed his underlings to enact this suppression, censorship campaign

that violated the First Amendment of a large number of scientists and led to the misinformation, the misinforming of the American public about basic facts about COVID throughout the pandemic.

INGRAHAM: And professor, also because you challenged lockdown orders, you have said your life at Stanford in some ways became kind of a living hell. And now you say that academic freedom itself is dead. So explain how academia is part of the problem in this COVID debate.

BHATTACHARYA: You know, look, where I work and teach for the last 20 some years at Stanford University, we get hundreds of millions of dollars of money from the NIH. A lot of the top leadership in the medical school and elsewhere are friends with Dr. Fauci, personal friends with Dr. Fauci.

What's happened during the pandemic is that people who have spoken up against the lockdown policy, Dr. Atlas you just heard, me, Dr. John Ioannidis, a very famous scientist also at Stanford, a friend of mine, we've all been on the receiving end of a tremendous pressure within the university to try to keep us silent. There have been -- at one point during the pandemic there was a poster campaign. I had the crime of having Governor DeSantis tweet my picture out because I said at a round table that he hosted that by protecting, by vaccinating the old we protected the vulnerable. That was apparently a terrible crime. They put my picture up. And I felt threatened on campus, and the leadership did nothing. We really need to fix that.

INGRAHAM: And Dr. Bhattacharya, academic freedom doesn't mean anything if dissent is punished from whatever the establishment at the time is saying. But thank you for your bravery during these past few years we've gotten to know you. We have enormous respect for you. Thank you so much.

And liberal wunderkind and crypto fraud, Sam Bankman-Fried faced bankruptcy court for the first time today. Victor Davis Hanson and Miranda Devine are here next, and they're going to tell us why he and even his parents are the poster children for liberal creepiness. Stay with us.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

INGRAHAM: Crypto creep and Democrat darling Sam Bankman-Fried's company officially faced bankruptcy court in Delaware today. The details of his grift, especially as it relates to the Bahamian real estate purchases he made, are jaw-dropping. Now, official property records show that SBF and his associates bought at least 19 properties with a total value of nearly \$121 million just over the past two years.

Separately, one of the company's units spent \$300 million in the Bahamas buying properties for its senior staff. The portfolio included a vacation home in which Bankman-Fried's parents, who are both liberal Stanford professors, were listed as signatories. When asked how it was paid for, a spokesman for the professors said they had been trying to return the property to their son's company. OK. But given what his father said just three months ago, it kind of seems hard to believe.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOSEPH BANKMAN, STANFORD LAW PROFESSOR: The most relevant thing here is probably that I'm Sam's dad.

I think we've always enjoyed working together and thinking together. But I think from the start whenever I was useful, I lend a hand.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: Joining us now, Hoover Institution senior fellow Victor Davis Hanson and Miranda Devine, FOX News contributor and "New York Post" columnist who has been following all of this. Victor, are you surprised that this 30-year-old was the product of two liberal professors in academia?

VICTOR DAVIS HANSON, HOOVER INSTITUTE SENIOR FELLOW: No, I wish I was surprised, but there's something wrong morally with the zip codes between San Francisco and San Jose. It's Silicon Valley, \$7 trillion of market capitalization, or it's the sanctimonious virtual signaling of Stanford University. But that combination has produced probably the greatest Ponzi scheme in our own lives. His mother ran Mind the Gap, which was kind of an attempt to get money from Silicon Valley and disguise the donors and then pour it into the election.

Remember, this is not new, Laura. We had Elizabeth Holmes from Theranos. She as Stanford person. She ran an \$8 billion Ponzi scheme, if you remember, a big Hillary Clinton donor. And Dianne Feinstein, billionaire, has a Chinese chauffeur for 20 years, no consequences. Barbara Boxer, our senator from the same area, she was a registered Chinese foreign agent and was working with a state company that helped surveil the Uyghurs. And then we get into the hypocrisy of Nancy Pelosi violating her own quarantine that

she championed, giving her lectures on ice cream and her \$24,000 refrigerator. I could go on and on with the French Laundry, Gavin Newsom. Tom Steyer, the Stanford board trustee, \$191 million. He ran for president, didn't get one delegate, and yet he made a lot of his fortune with Indonesian coal plants, dirty coal.

So what the common denominator is these people have enormous amounts of money. They're never subject to consequences of their own ideology, and they virtue signal to the rest of us in the utilitarian philosophy that the ends justify almost any means necessary to achieve them because they're so noble. They're really dangerous people.

INGRAHAM: Miranda, let me jump in here. I think, Victor, it's worse than that. Miranda, they work to shame other people. It's not just that they virtue signal. They actively shame other people, as in this case, this kid is ripping people off of billions of dollars. They forced Sequoia Capital today, one of the biggest venture capital firms in the world, to apologize to their investors for buying into this kid's fraud. So Sequoia is totally captured by this 30 year-old fraud whose parents are professors at Stanford, and we're all supposed to go like this? OK.

MIRANDA DEVINE, COLUMNIST, "NEW YORK POST": Well, Sequoia should apologize. We heard today that \$3 billion has gone missing from this company. And Sequoia, it was obvious to everybody that the shambolic, bizarre, creepy kid was not someone that you would trust with billions of dollars. And so, I would never invest any money with Sequoia because obviously they have no taste.

And look, what Victor was just saying about SBF's parents and their utilitarian philosophy, their son has absorbed that. Utterly cynical. He has given interviews in the last few days talking about this supposed philosophy, really a cult, that he belonged to called effective altruism, which is all about doing good, but doing lefty good, which is not really doing good at all. It's another word for socialism.

And he just laughed about it. He said oh, yes, we pretended. We just adopted these woke shibboleths to fool people because then we could get away with blue murder, effectively. I'm paraphrasing. And that's exactly what happened. He donated to Democrats to the tune of tens of millions of dollars, and therefore the regulators turned a blind eye.

INGRAHAM: And Ro Khanna, Congressman Ro Khanna, he was a huge beneficiary of the money coming from Bankman-Fried. And the Democrats look like they're just running for the exit, don't even want to address this at all.

HANSON: No.

INGRAHAM: Miranda and Victor, we've got to roll, they're telling me. So thank you very much. Happy Thanksgiving to both of you.

And with no suspect in the University of Idaho murders, the finger pointing has begun. What one anonymous source is saying about the local police, and why our next guest says that's unwarranted. Mark Fuhrman is here to tell us in moments.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

INGRAHAM: A number of unanswered questions are lingering in the case of four murdered University of Idaho students nine days ago. And tonight, we're seeing frustration boil over. Someone described as a source close to the investigation telling "The Daily Mail" that Moscow police botched the initial investigation, saying they likely obliterated mountains of evidence at the scene by waiting so long to properly investigate. In another development, law enforcement sources are telling FOX that investigators may be probing whether the killer hid in the woods before entering the victims' home, and they're also investigating the possibility of a peeping tom situation.

Joining me is FOX News contributor and former LAPD detective Mark Fuhrman. Mark, good to see you tonight. Is this kind of finger pointing at this point, at this stage in the case, to be expected given the lack of leads?

MARK FUHRMAN, FORMER LAPD DETECTIVE: You know, Laura, I'm not sure. When I read this article, the very way this source is describing it is not the language of a police officer, a detective, or even a forensic tech. The very idea that this homicide investigation has been done improperly would mean you have access to the inside of that residence. And homicide investigation is not a timed event. And I certainly appreciate that they've taken this amount of time to process that scene because they could. It was inside, it was closed from the elements, and they could control the heat. So this was very good, not very bad.

INGRAHAM: Now, I want to play an exchange from what was a press conference this past Sunday. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Do you still believe this was, this attack was done by one perpetrator? And if so, how does one individual kill four people at night and not wake up the other two roommates?

JAMES FRY, MOSCOW CHIEF OF POLICE: Our investigation will continue to look at all avenues of that investigation. I cannot disclose any of that information. I don't even know that information at this point in time.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: Mark, your reaction to that?

FUHRMAN: Well, I think the chief, he's a little uncomfortable that he's doing the press conference. He doesn't want to give away any information that detectives or the FBI or the Idaho state police are working on. So he is trying to walk the line on that. And of course, they're not going to release, yes, we think it's absolutely one suspect, or it had to be multiple people. They're not going to release that. They have to save some information in case they do get a suspect so they can actually interrogate that person effectively. That should be absolutely the first thing that everybody should understand. They're going to give enough to help catch the suspect or suspects, but they're actually going to keep back and hold close to the vest information that only the killer would know.

INGRAHAM: Now, Mark, speaking as a mom for a moment, if my son or daughter were at this university, and I'd heard, well, we don't have the suspect, we don't seem to -- doesn't seem like there are many big leads, but it's safe on campus, I just wouldn't feel that way. Maybe that's irrational, but that's the way I would feel. Your reaction to that?

FUHRMAN: I would agree, but I think in the mindset of what we've been going through for probably the last 10 or 20 years is terrorism and active shooters on campus, and that's where a lot of security is geared. Now, when the detectives and the officers got to the scene, they realized that this crime scene and these victims were killed --

INGRAHAM: Mark, thank you, we appreciate your input. Stay with us.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

INGRAHAM: Kamala Harris sometimes struggles to think on her feet. So in the Philippines she decided to keep it real simple.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KAMALA HARRIS, (D) VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: Hello. Hello. Hello. Thank you. Hello. Hello. Thank you.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

INGRAHAM: That was the most erudite I've heard her sound in two years. That was pretty good.

Have a good Thanksgiving.

END

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HD **Bob Iger Returns as Disney CEO; Green Future?; FTX Court Hearing; Colorado Mass Shooting; Border Town Surge; University of Idaho Murder Mystery; Thanksgiving Inflation**

BY Jackie DeAngelis, Kelly O'Grady, Gerry Baker, Bill Melugin, Claudia Cowan, Dan Springer, Jeff Flock, Brian Brenberg, Charles Payne, Peter Doocy

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SC CAVU

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LP

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOE BIDEN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: Look at this. God love you. Now, this is Chocolate, right?

TD

Chocolate, you are pardoned. You are pardoned. He said, You had to tell me that?

(APPLAUSE)

BIDEN: Yeah. Yeah, you are. Yeah. I'm serious.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CHARLES PAYNE, FOX NEWS ANCHOR: President Biden pardoning the Thanksgiving turkey, but will Americans be pardoned from soaring prices anytime soon, as consumers continue to tighten their belts?

Welcome, everyone. I'm Charles Payne, in for Neil Cavuto, and this is "Your World."

More on that in a moment.

First to Peter Doocy at the White House with the latest -- Peter.

PETER DOOCY, FOX NEWS WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT: And, Charles, those two turkeys President Biden pardoned today not for sale, but the turkeys that people need to go buy for Thursday's festivities much more expensive than last year.

We have a few graphics. A 16-pound turkey is up to \$28.96. That is plus 21 percent from last year. A 14-ounce bag of cube stuffing mix is up -- is \$3.88. That's up 69 percent. And then just two frozen pie crusts going for \$3.68, that is up 26 percent, according to the Farm Bureau, but, here at the White House, President Biden trying to keep things pretty light.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BIDEN: At any rate, we got to get on with this. First of all, the votes are in. They've been counted and verified. There's no ballot stuffing. There's no fowl play.

(LAUGHTER)

BIDEN: The only red wave this season is going to be a German shepherd, Commander, who knocks over the cranberry sauce on our table.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

DOOCY: There is a bright spot price-wise for the chief of staff, though.

Ron Klain posted this: "As you hit the road for Thanksgiving, some good news. Gas prices are falling in most parts of the country sharply. One in 10 pumps are below \$2.89, several states down from Thanksgiving 2021. Most common price is \$3.29."

But many Republicans remain unconvinced.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. JOHN BARRASSO (R-WY): All of these prices are way up. And it's because of the spending coming out of Washington.

In terms of the energy you're talking about, people want affordable energy. And the thing that's most disturbing to me, Maria, is what's happening right now with regard to China and the U.S. China is eating our lunch.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

DOOCY: President Biden is about to leave the White House for a Friendsgiving celebration down at Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point in North Carolina.

And then, tomorrow, the president is planning to head to Nantucket for Thanksgiving with his family for the rest of the week -- Charles.

PAYNE: Peter, thank you very much.

Meanwhile, there's a headline in The New York Post: "Thanksgiving feast inflation has shoppers choosing chicken over turkey." Is that really what it's coming to? And is there any end in sight for these soaring prices?

Brian Brenberg, the King's College professor, FOX News contributor, with me now.

Brian, I mean, the numbers are really staggering. It's odd things and they say, oh, well, it's a little bit off the high. Yes, I mean, it's all still -- really, just all year long, this runaway inflation has taken a toll.

BRIAN BRENBERG, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: Yes, and 70 percent up for stuffing? I mean, have you heard worse news than that in a while?

But you look at these price increases, they squeeze customers worst around holidays, around the time that you want to celebrate here.

PAYNE: Right.

BRENBERG: And here you are paying so much more.

And it just feels like there's no end in sight. I mean, we see wages go up a little bit, we see prices go up more. And the Federal Reserve is doing everything it can right now to destroy demand. That might get prices down a little bit. But on the supply side of this economy, nothing's going, Charles.

PAYNE: Right.

BRENBERG: And that's going to keep prices high.

PAYNE: Right.

And I really worry about what the Federal Reserve is doing, because I feel like they're going to at some point go too far, because it's interesting. They keep talking about all the money in the system, all the money that was printed out and sent out.

Most of it is rich people holding it. The bottom half of our income strata, they have used up all their stimmy money.

BRENBERG: Right.

PAYNE: And yet they're paying a -- it's so amazing to me, Brian, that you would get all this money from the government on the -- and they want you to go out and spend it.

BRENBERG: Right.

PAYNE: You go out spend it, it triggers inflation, and then you have to pay a penalty because the Fed comes in and tries to make you lose your job.

BRENNBERG: Yes, we will give you with one hand and we will take with the other.

But guess what, folks? That's big government in action. It's always going to be this way. But the problem is, it's slowing down this economy badly, I would say, and it's hitting consumers the worst.

PAYNE: Right.

BRENNBERG: They are just flush with debt right now. Credit card balances are going up. Interest rates are going up. That's a very bad position to be in.

Forget about Thanksgiving prices. They're going to get to a point soon where they have got no margin because they are just IOU'ed to the hilt.

PAYNE: Yes. I mean, credit card debt has risen as fast as it has at any point in last 20 years.

BRENNBERG: Yes.

PAYNE: And we're already at a record.

By the way, you mentioned that Thanks -- it's not just Thanksgiving. I was looking at the Christmas...

BRENNBERG: Oh, don't even go there now, Charles.

PAYNE: So, a partridge in a pear tree is up 26 percent.

(LAUGHTER)

PAYNE: By the way, the partridge is not up. That's all pear tree.

(LAUGHTER)

PAYNE: Five golden rings up 39 percent, 10 lords a leaping up 24 percent. Like what the hell is...

BRENNBERG: Swans a swimming are through the roof.

PAYNE: So, if you think you're getting a break after Thanksgiving, it only gets worse.

(LAUGHTER)

BRENNBERG: It does.

And, look, I got to say this too. On the supply side of the economy, we're talking about gas prices and Thanksgiving prices. But we have got the potential for a real railway strike in this country in early December. You think about what that would mean to this economy, Charles, all the things that we're moving around on the trains, that would be such a disaster on top of everything we're dealing with.

PAYNE: Right.

BRENNBERG: This is a president who's always living on the edge of the next big problem, because he refuses to address what's really going on in this economy.

PAYNE: This is really an extraordinary problem too. I'm glad you brought it up, because this is also a president who's trying to force businesses to unionize.

BRENNBERG: Right.

PAYNE: Using the government's pocketbooks and saying, this industry, this company, I will reward this one, I won't be. It will be based on unionization.

Here you have the union, by the way, 36,000 conductors, and the rail strike will start either between the 5th or the 9th. And here's the thing I find most amazing. UPS is their largest customer.

BRENNBERG: Wow.

PAYNE: So, to your point, if UPS can get you these packages, or has to find alternatives, with diesel prices, with diesel inventory at the lowest level since 1951, that costs has to be passed on.

BRENNBERG: Right.

It's absolutely passed on. You think about how much we move, 300,000 barrels of crude every day move on train. That's a \$2 billion hit. If the trains are on strike, \$2 billion hit a day for this economy, that is the -- it's the fundamental engine, pun intended, of how this economy works. You have got to move stuff.

And the president has handed unions the keys to the kingdom here. And at this point, he's putting us in the way of that train, instead of taking responsibility for the policy that he's trying to implement.

PAYNE: Let's gets to that real quick, because there's a genesis for all of this, right? And it's all based on the green utopia.

BRENNBERG: Yes.

PAYNE: Whether it's fertilizer prices going through the roof, hence, food prices going through the roof, whether it's the inability to get all this oil beneath our feet, refine it, get it to market.

We don't have to be -- this is -- we don't have to be suffering any of this. We could be doing a segment right now on how much cheaper it is for Thanksgiving.

BRENNBERG: It's all a choice. It's a policy choice by this administration to take our competitive advantage and say we're going to bury it and keep it there.

PAYNE: Right.

BRENNBERG: You're right. The conversation right now would be so different if we had an all-of-the-above-energy strategy and we quit demonizing fossil fuels.

But they won't back off that. And, as a result, we're sitting again on the precipice of economic carnage.

PAYNE: Right. only Chocolate the turkey is getting a break this season.

BRENNBERG: Yes, right. Come on.

(LAUGHTER)

PAYNE: Thanks a lot, Brian. Appreciate it.

BRENNBERG: You bet.

PAYNE: Now, retailers are not just facing supply problems, folks. Crime, in particular, shoplifting, it's really wrecking havoc on -- as we enter this busy holiday shopping season.

FOX Business' Jeff Flock is in Jackson, New Jersey, with more on that -- Jeff.

JEFF FLOCK, FOX BUSINESS NETWORK CORRESPONDENT: It almost doesn't do it justice, Charles, to call it shoplifting anymore, because it actually is organized crime getting involved in retail theft.

That's what happened, authorities say, at this mall where I am in South Jersey. This month, a group based in Baltimore, an organized crime theft ring, tried to knock this place over. Fortunately, they were there to arrest them. But this is taking place all across the country.

Take a look at the numbers. We're just entering the Christmas shopping season; 166 million people will be shopping at bricks and mortar over the next several days. And a few of those will be shopping without intending to pay for what they're taking. Yes, organized retail crime is what it's called.

And that's up 26 percent last year and even more this year. It may surprise you what they're taking too. These are organized rings, Charles, that are stealing not real high dollar stuff. It's actually small-time stuff, toothpaste, hair care products, personal care products, things that you can steal easily.

But they're doing it in tremendous volume and then reselling that stuff online. Yes, these rings have really taken off. And what is it costing businesses? Well, for every billion dollars in sales, \$700,000 of that goes to theft. Pretty amazing.

It's leading some stores like CVS, Walgreens, other stores that have been particularly hard hit to start locking everything up. Yes, take a look at these pictures. We have got pictures of toothpaste and shampoo being held behind a locked door. If you want to shampoo your hair or use deodorant, you kind of have to get somebody to unlock the cabinet for you, so that you can purchase it, because these stores say, without doing that, the stores would be bare, with people taking stuff and not paying for it.

Wow.

PAYNE: Yes.

FLOCK: So crazy, Charles.

PAYNE: Sort of puts a crimp in convenience, that's for sure.

Jeff, thank you very much.

FLOCK: Christmas.

PAYNE: Meanwhile, folks, border towns overwhelmed with a surge that's not slowing down. What it is forcing one community to do right now, it's coming up.

Also, still no suspect in the murder of four University of Idaho students. We have got the latest as new details are emerging.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

PAYNE: Still no suspects in the stabbing deaths of four University of Idaho students. Investigators still believe it to be a targeted attack.

FOX News' correspondent Dan Springer is live in Moscow, Idaho, with more -- Dan.

DAN SPRINGER, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Yes, Charles, we're nine days into this quadruple homicide investigation, and we are still seeing police officers show up here, process the scene and also look for new evidence.

In fact, just a few minutes ago, we got some shots of a team from the state patrol and the FBI is showing up here at the back of the house. And they were going through some exercises where they were at the stain -- the glass door on the back which leads into the kitchen.

And we saw an investigator running up that hillside looking at what would - - where the very best place would be to go if you were fleeing that house. And so we're still seeing them processing the scene. They still do not have a suspect identified or even a person of interest.

But we did get some new information over the weekend. Investigators say the 911 call came from one of the surviving roommates' phone. Remember, it was reported as an unconscious person. And now we know why. Police say the roommates and some other friends who were at the house when cops arrived Sunday at noon, they thought the victims had simply passed out in the rooms.

Also, police still think that this was a targeted killing, but aren't saying or aren't sure who the target was.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JAMES FRY, MOSCOW, IDAHO, POLICE CHIEF: We believe they're targeted, because we take the totality of all the circumstances that we're looking at.

Do we know any one person that was targeted? We're not at -- able to say at this point in time due to our investigation, but we still believe that.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SPRINGER: The bodies were found in two bedrooms, one on the second floor, the other on the third, the victims apparently attacked in their sleep.

Some were able to put up a fight. They had defensive wounds on their hands. There was no indication of a sexual assault. Police are now asking for the public's help. They want any surveillance cam video people might have out there.

This campus is practically empty. Most students went home last week, and the university has no idea how many students will return after Thanksgiving.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

C. SCOTT GREEN, PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO: Safety concerns and the need to grieve, along with the long-term needs of our students and our employees.

We're making security our top priority. We are also planning for the very real possibility that some students aren't comfortable returning to campus. We will do our best to meet the needs of all students.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SPRINGER: Today will be the first of the victim funerals.

Ethan Chapin will be laid to rest this afternoon in Mount Vernon, Washington. He was a triplet, his other two siblings also students here at the University of Idaho.

Police say they have gone through some 700 tips. They have conducted 90 interviews. And, again, Charles the bottom line is, they still have not identified a suspect. They have not even given us a description of a possible suspect. So, right now, they're still just trying to gather evidence -- Charles.

PAYNE: Thanks a lot, Dan.

Let's get the read -- more of a read on this from former NYPD Detective Pat Brosnan.

Pat, as we watch this, everyone becomes sort of an armchair detective. And I think the first thing that jumped out at me early on was some of the mistakes that the local law enforcement might have made, contaminating evidence or doing certain things like that. Obviously, they don't have a lot of experience in this, thank God.

But, from your vantage point, it's nine days in. Where do you see this? What do you think is happening?

PATRICK BROSANAN, FORMER NYPD DETECTIVE: Well, of course, Charles, in relation to your observation concerning their lack of experience, listen, I'm sure they're terrific guys, and they are doing the absolute best they can.

But even when I was in the Bronx in the crack days, where the homicide, a quadruple, never mind a quadruple of this magnitude, it would be a full-blown Bronx homicide task force investigation. We would probably look to the federal and state authorities even for additional task force, because this is a massive case, intense media scrutiny.

And not only do they not know who he is, in terms of an identification. They don't even have a description. And he is at large. He or she is at large. This is -- this is a very, very serious matter, extremely serious.

PAYNE: Pat, have you...

(CROSSTALK)

BROSANAN: It will warrants a...

(CROSSTALK)

BROSANAN: ... task force.

PAYNE: Pat, do you think it's a single a single person, though, or -- you say a he or she. Could it be more than one assailant.

BROSANAN: At this point, absolutely.

Charles, very little as unknown, or very few material facts have been distributed for us to gather together in order to assess both motivation and so forth. We know that there was no break-in. That's what -- that's been contributed.

We know that the two young ladies were at a bar first, when they went to the Grubhub for that food truck. That would be a place that I might start if I was involved in this case and take it from the bar. But this is unbelievable that they could be murdered so savagely on two floors, four individuals, and the others would not have heard it and fled or in some way have been involved and got the heck out of there.

It's an extremely unusual series of facts that are known.

PAYNE: What about the clock ticking, nine days? Does it become exponentially more difficult to track down the culprit the further out we get from the actual day that this happened, or the night?

BROSANAN: One thousand percent. One thousand percent. The clock is ticking, and it's ticking against law enforcement.

PAYNE: Yes.

BROSANAN: Every day that ticks by is a day against them gaining new evidence, against them tracking them in terms of the proximity to the crime.

They're moving further away from the crime in time and in space prospectively. Very, very little is known or very, very little is shared at this point, as I mentioned.

PAYNE: Yes.

BROSNAN: There's not even a composite sketch of the assailant.

PAYNE: Yes.

BROSNAN: There's nothing.

He wasn't caught on a video that's known. This is a ghost.

PAYNE: Yes. This is heartbreaking.

Pat, thank you very much. Appreciate it.

Another story we're following, five people killed in 19 injured after a man opened fire inside a gay nightclub Saturday night in Colorado Springs, the suspect -- suspected gunman facing a number of charges.

FOX News' senior correspondent Claudia Cowan is at the scene with the very latest -- Claudia.

CLAUDIA COWAN, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Hey, Charles.

The nightclub remains an active crime scene. And we just got an update on how many people were shot when this gunman opened fire here Saturday night, turning the drag show and dance party that was happening into a bloodbath.

Police say, along with the five people who were killed, 19 others were injured. All but two suffered gunshot wounds; 22-year-old Anderson Lee Aldrich faces five counts of murder and five hate crime charges, as this grieving community demands to know more about his background, because, last year, a 21-year-old Anderson Lee Aldrich was arrested after his mother called in a bomb threat.

Home security video shows the moment he surrendered. And while no bombs were found, he was arrested on three counts of first-degree kidnapping and felony menacing. But that case was never prosecuted. Court records were sealed. And there is no evidence his family or police sought to trigger Colorado's so-called red flag protection law that would have put Aldrich on law enforcement's radar and given them the ability to take his firearms.

Flash forward to Saturday night, when police say Anderson Aldrich opened fire with a long rifle after entering Club Q just before midnight. Two patrons grabbed his gun hit, him with it and pinned him down until police arrived, no doubt preventing more bloodshed.

No word on when Aldrich will be arraigned. But each of the five murder counts carries a mandatory life sentence without parole, and more charges could be coming. Charles, Colorado Springs police are expected to hold a press conference in just over an hour -- back to you.

PAYNE: Now to the billions missing from the FTX collapse and a hearing tomorrow that could shed light on a lot of it.

And doesn't our Kelly O'Grady know it -- Kelly.

KELLY O'GRADY, FOX BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT: Yes, Charles, I mean, we all want to know, where did the money go? Now a new court filing is shedding light on how much the top investors in FTX are set to lose.

We will tell you more coming up.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

PAYNE: Five days after launching from the Kennedy Space Center, NASA's unmanned Orion spacecraft has reached the moon. It's a key moment in NASA's Artemis mission, which aims to eventually return astronauts to the moon.

We're back in 60 seconds.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

PAYNE: Ahead of tomorrow's key FTX bankruptcy hearing, investors are still out billions and aren't hearing answers on what happened to their money.

To Kelly O'Grady from FOX Business with the latest -- Kelly.

O'GRADY: Hi, Charles.

Yes, so many of the biggest funds have written off their investments completely. You have got Sequoia, Tiger Global, but a court filing this weekend painting a picture of just how much money could be lost. So the top 10 investors in FTX alone represent roughly a billion-and-a-half in claims, nearly 3.1 billion owed to the top 50 creditors. Now, investments on this list range from \$20 million to over \$200 million.

But it doesn't account for the remaining other one million creditors. Some customers put in \$10,000 or \$20,000. They too may lose everything.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SHEILA BAIR, FORMER CHAIR, FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION: Like at the top 50, but there are potentially a million much smaller investors. And, proportionately, they're the ones that are really going to get hurt, a lot of young people.

FTX heavily, as does most crypto, heavily market to young people at sporting events, et cetera.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

O'GRADY: Now, for creditors hoping to recapture those lost funds, the outlook is grim.

A court filing reveals just \$564 million of the less than \$1 billion that has been recovered so far is even liquid. But the company is now pursuing a potential sale of assets to garner more cash. But, often, in these cases, that can lead to a fire sale.

I mean, the crypto industry is already feeling the impact of these shockwaves. And so these assets may be significantly undervalued if a sale occurs. Tomorrow is an important day, though. In addition to the creditors mentioned, the Bahamian government is seeking to lay a claim to the funds as well. So what the judge decides will determine where the case takes place going forward and on what timeline these creditors may see what little money is coming to them, Charles.

PAYNE: Thank you, Kelly.

So, could regulators have done anything to stop this from happening?

The read now from legendary investor Ken Fisher.

Ken, another black eye, some would say for the crypto universe, but let's face it. You start hearing names like Sequoia involved. We know that Gary Gensler, his office had been involved with Sam Bankman-Fried. He had become something of a star on Capitol Hill, sprinkling millions of dollars around.

When we hear this stuff, as someone who's -- who built a fortune in this industry serving the public, what are you -- what are you thinking about?

KEN FISHER, FOUNDER, FISHER INVESTMENTS: Well, first, thanks for having me. The only anything better than having you or Neil interview me would be if you were both doing it together.

But when you think of the actual way the spelling of the man's name is done, it's Bankman-Fried. And that's pretty much a good indication of what it is. The fact of the matter is, when you give, whoever you are, custody to a decision-maker, you're doing a dangerous thing, because the fact of the matter is, they can take the money out the backdoor.

They don't always start off with that intent. Most of the great Ponzis in the world did not start off with that intent, but saw some great opportunity, and, in seeing that great opportunity, took the money out the door for that sure thing, which then backfired.

Then they double down, double down. This is exactly the Bernie Madoff story. I mean, this is very little different. In some ways, it is different, but it's very little different than a traditional Ponzi; 13 years ago, I wrote a book -- I'm not really wanting to be promotional here, because nobody's going to buy it, but "How to Smell a Rat," which was about that whole Ponzi world.

PAYNE: Right. Right.

FISHER: The fact of the matter is, the regulators are not going to stop it, because the big custodians are the banks and the broker dealers, who also want to be active decision-makers, and they're just going to regulate those guys more tightly.

But when you give money to a custody decision-maker, you run the risk they will take it out the backdoor. There's just no exceptions to that. All great Ponzi's in history have had this.

PAYNE: Yes, I'm not I'm not willing to give Sam Bankman-Fried the benefit of the doubt.

I looked at the way his company was organized. It is so convoluted, so confusing. It looks like there were several backdoors, if they ever wanted to do this from day one. So, to your point, here's the thing, though. So you say how to smell a rat. This is what I'm really very angry about, Ken.

You had smart people putting money into this, apparently, the smartest people on the planet, Sequoia, the number one venture capital and -- company in the world, rather. They have due diligence capabilities. So you mean to tell me this guy strolled into your office two times last year, and they gave him a valuation of \$25 billion?

He had on his Birkenstocks. And he handed them a balance sheet that was -- looked like it was written by a 3-year-old and somehow they gave him all of this money. What is their role? Because when they rubber-stamp someone like this, Ken, they are telling the public, we have done our due diligence, you don't have to worry about it.

FISHER: Go read my friend John Tamny on RealClearMarkets today, who speaks very well to the point of, what do Silicon Valley types think and how do they think that's different than the way we think they think?

And the fact of the matter is, as he points out very well, they're in the business of doing nothing but big, go home things. They're not really putting a Good Housekeeping Seal of Approval on things. It's no different in that regard, in that regard, only that regard, from what happened with Elizabeth Holmes, where a lot of these same people were making a mistake not about custody and decision-making, not about taking money out the backdoor, but about getting conned.

PAYNE: Right.

FISHER: And, in the end, all of these people operating a near-Ponzi or Ponzi-like way become cons.

PAYNE: Right.

FISHER: But they don't necessarily all start out as cons. And it's very hard to determine how they actually started out and what was going on in their head.

But this is a con. They took the money out the back door, take big bets on it. They backfire, double down, try to do it again, do it again, do it again. It keeps backfiring, because the more you get in trouble, the more you try to do it again, the more it backfires on you.

And then, finally, somebody like Bernie Madoff or traditional Ponzi guys just keep learning to play crook.

PAYNE: Yes.

I just -- I just -- I think people watching the show are just wondering, who's looking out for them? Because it's easy to say take custody, be your own custodian, but it's a lot harder for the average person, as you know, to do this.

FISHER: Just separate -- just separate custody from decision-making.

PAYNE: Right.

FISHER: Put the custody over here, put the decision-maker over there. The decision-maker will keep an eye on the custodian. The custodian won't be taking it out the backdoor. When you put them together, you're just asking for trouble.

PAYNE: Ken Fisher, you're a legend for a reason.

Thank you, my friend. Appreciate it.

FISHER: Thank you.

PAYNE: Coming up: Climate protesters strike again, folks. This stunt is setting a lot of people off

But first to the border. As migrants keep flooding in, families are hiring armed guards to keep them out.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

PAYNE: The border surge showing no signs of slowing down, as massive groups of migrants continue to cross into the United States.

FOX News' Bill Melugin is Anapra, New Mexico, with more -- Bill.

BILL MELUGIN, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Charles, good afternoon to you.

Not everybody showing up here at our Southern border is an asylum seeker. Many of them are looking to evade, and some of them are quite successful at it. Case in point, take a look at this video we shot from right here in Anapra, New Mexico, over the weekend, where we saw groups of men repeatedly scaling the border wall behind us and then running off into New Mexico towards residential neighborhoods.

Now, at the time we shot this video, we didn't see any Border Patrol agents around, likely busy elsewhere with their daily duties. And we never saw any of these men apprehended, meaning they're likely going to be presumed got-aways. You will see some of them running in front of our vehicles, others running through the brush.

These are not asylum seekers. These are people actively looking to evade and who are not willing to turn themselves in. Elsewhere here in this El Paso sector, take a look at this video. We actually went into Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, the city across from El Paso, to find out where these migrants are crossing illegally.

And we quickly noticed there are several holes cut into the border wall in certain areas. And we watched as groups of migrants walked up to the border wall and went through some of those holes. Once they get through that, they go through the little canal, there's another chain-link fence. Well, there's holes cut into that chain-link fence as well.

Once they're through that hole, they are into El Paso. You will notice there are piles of discarded clothing on the ground. There's a pair of bolt cutters in the water right there. That is a popular spot, where illegal immigrants like to try to breach that area and get into the United States.

And, lastly, we will take you elsewhere along the border. These are the people who are turning themselves in. Take a look at this stunning drone footage from our team in Eagle Pass, this another massive single group of nearly 400 migrants turning themselves in illegally in the Eagle Pass area, almost all of them single adults, as always, from countries like Cuba, Nicaragua, the Dominican Republic.

As you can see, it is a huge drain on Border Patrol resources. They got to respond with buses, vans and numerous agents. And that pulls agents off the front lines elsewhere, which can be concerning, because that's allowing those got-aways to get through the border elsewhere.

And back out here live, the reason we are in the El Paso sector right now is, it has quickly become the big he is along the Southern border. According to CBP, just in the month of October, the El Paso sector had more than 53,000 migrant encounters. That represents a 280 percent increase over the same time last year.

And those numbers do not account for any of the got-aways. We will send it back to you.

PAYNE: Bill Melugin in Anapra, New Mexico, thank you very much.

Things have gotten so bad that some families on the border are actually hiring armed guards to protect their property.

Jonathan Lines is the Yuma County, Arizona, supervisor, where people are paying for private security.

Jonathan, tell us more.

JONATHAN LINES, YUMA COUNTY, ARIZONA, SUPERVISOR: Great to be here.

So, a lot of the areas directly on the border, we have actually had two or three families go in and hire armed guards to keep people out of their houses. We have seen a number of people run through neighborhoods and hide in houses, and a lot of people have just had enough of it.

PAYNE: You know, it's -- it really is fascinating in so many ways, to not be there, but watch this go on and believe that this is the United States of America, that two million people illegally entered the country, hundreds of thousands of got-aways.

We don't know where they are, what their intentions are, but they didn't wait in line to be processed. And so we have to think that it's not necessarily something we're going to be happy with. But to deal with it there in real life, how has life changed?

LINES: You know, it's interesting, because we had over 300,000 people come through Yuma last year. And that's a significant surge, and we can expect that those numbers will continue.

The farmers along the border have had to implement additional safety and security protocols to keep people out of the fields, because most of -- much of the produce is headed directly to your dinner table. And they have been successful in doing that. But it's impacted us tremendously. Our hospital has about \$22 million in unreimbursed expenses directly due to those people coming across the border illegally.

And then our NGOs, our food banks and some of the local organizations that assist have -- their resources have been put to the test. And we have had to bring in additional resources to provide and care for the people in this community.

PAYNE: Yes.

It's really sad to hear that people actually have to hire someone to give them protection.

Jonathan, thank you very much. We appreciate it.

LINES: Thank you, Charles.

PAYNE: President Biden set to spend huge amounts of green to help other countries go green.

What Gerry Baker makes of that right after this.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

PAYNE: Protesters dragged out of a Milan art gallery after throwing flour on a sports car painted by Andy Warhol, this to bring attention to climate change. The activists said that they are forced to do absurd acts because the situation is absurd.

This as President Biden unveiled a \$20 billion plan at the G20 summit to help Indonesia on its reliance on coal. Is that amount of money going to another country just as absurd?

Wall Street Journal editor at large Gerry Baker joins me now.

Gerry, first to the protests, these activists targeting great works of art throughout -- mostly throughout Europe. But I just -- I'm just so confused as to why they think this is effective or helps their cause at all.

GERRY BAKER, HOST, "WALL STREET JOURNAL AT LARGE": Yes, I mean, the logic, Charles, of saying, well, we think something is absurd, so we're going to do something absurd as well, that's no logic. That's no logic at all.

I mean, if that's what you're going to do, then you're going to be open to doing -- basically living an absurd life, trying to address the problems that we all face in life. So that's madness.

And, as you say, it turns people off, and quite rightly. I mean, we have seen all over Europe, particularly these demonstrations of shutting down -- shutting down highways in the U.K., damaging these great works of art around the world. Nobody wants that.

Why do they think that that is anything that anybody would respond positively to, this idea that we're going to disrupt people's lives, we're going to destroy their opportunity to see great art, we're going to essentially make their lives less enjoyable than they are now, because we don't like a particular set of policies that we're living with?

PAYNE: Yes, there's a threat of anarchism to it all, that, sometimes, I feel these causes are an excuse for something else, some other -- to give a green light to antisocial behavior, and, in this particular case, just pushing back on, I don't know, just a rebuttal of the world and the success of the Western world.

BAKER: Yes, I think that's right.

I mean, I don't think -- and we will kind of talk about this deal that Joe Biden unfortunately signed up to at the summit, the so-called COP 27 summit. You're absolutely right. It's -- the thing is, it's -- I do agree with you. I think there are a lot of these young people around the world who are searching for something to care about.

Religion is declining, sadly. Traditional religion is declining amongst the world. Young people don't really have things to believe in. We have become a very kind of nihilistic society, where it's all about pursuing your own interests, pursuing your own goals.

So they embrace these extreme causes, which gives them some sort of meaning to their life. And then they also, quite frankly, do things that give them some publicity.

PAYNE: Yes.

BAKER: They're not going to get publicity, because they're not really smart enough to create anything or build anything. What they're going to get publicity for is by destroying things and knocking things down.

And so it's a very -- it's a dangerous thing. And, by the way, giving them publicity only makes it worse.

PAYNE: Yes, which is what we're doing now.

BAKER: Which is exactly what we're doing, yes.

PAYNE: But we didn't -- we didn't get anybody's name. So that's good.

(LAUGHTER)

BAKER: Yes.

PAYNE: Let me ask you about something that has bothered me for a long time, the notion of Western nations, particularly United States, paying off developing nations not to pursue, really, I think growth, to say, hey, you know what, we know you're going to have certain setbacks if you don't take coal, if you don't go with this climate change agenda.

And I just want your thoughts on this, because I think any developing nation would be crazy to take any money from a Western nation that essentially says, wherever you are right now in your growth, you will never grow much more than this, because you need coal, you need electricity, you need power if you want to become a First World country.

BAKER: Right.

Charles, this idea is such a terrible idea that has been rejected by American presidents of both parties over the last couple of decades. The U.N. has been trying to get developed nations to agree to this idea of what amounts essentially to climate reparations. They like call it climate justice. It's reparations.

What it represents is rich countries, which have developed their economies very, very well, giving transfers, significant financial transfers to poorer countries, on the understanding that -- because of the idea that somehow, those poorer countries, when they suffer natural disasters, extreme weather events, which we are told are the result of climate change...

PAYNE: Right.

BAKER: ... which, by the way, is highly debatable, highly debatable, that they're going to -- they suffer those effects. They're not responsible for most of the carbon in the atmosphere. We are because we industrialized early, and we have -- we have created a lot of the CO2 emissions, and, therefore, we somehow owe these reparations to these countries to help them out.

That's just not right. I mean, if we were the first to industrialize, that meant we gave the world extraordinary prosperity. We should be actually -- they should -- they are benefiting from the industrialization that we did. We don't owe them anything to apologize...

PAYNE: Absolutely. I agree.

BAKER: ... for the fact that we actually created so much economic growth.

PAYNE: I agree.

Gerry, thank you very much. Appreciate it.

So, folks, did the woke agenda just cause Disney to wake up? We have got the latest on that CEO shakeup.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

PAYNE: Disney seeing a major boost on Wall Street to start the week, this after the Mouse House announced former CEO Bob Iger's return to leadership.

FOX Business correspondent Jackie DeAngelis has the details -- Jackie.

JACKIE DEANGELIS, FOX BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT: Good afternoon, Charles. That's right.

And it says a lot that Bob Iger is coming back to Disney to take the helm after less than one year in retirement. Backstory here is that Bob Chapek succeeded Iger in 2020. And while he did face many challenges during his tenure, like navigating the pandemic, he is stepping down.

Iger, of course, was Disney's CEO from 2005 to 2020. And after serving as CEO, he remained on the Disney board. Now he's committed to serving as CEO for two more years. In a statement, board chair Susan Arnold said this -- quote -- "The board has concluded that, as Disney embarks on an incredibly complex period of industry transformation, Bob Iger is uniquely situated to lead the company through this pivotal period" -- end quote.

Disney is facing struggles, of course, in the streaming business. It's a highly competitive space. It also had trouble with attendance at theme parks because of lockdowns and restrictions not so long ago. It also faced some backlash from Florida's Governor Ron DeSantis over what were categorized as woke policies.

But perhaps the nail in the coffin was this month's earnings report. That's where losses at Disney+ were highlighted. Shares hit a 20-year low the day after the release. So here's where we stand with Disney. And you could see its stock had a nice little pop today, Charles.

PAYNE: A lot of people are hoping maybe Bob Iger takes it back to its roots, if that's possible.

DEANGELIS: Yes.

PAYNE: Thanks, Jackie.

Also, is this switch up really, really about Disney being -- or realizing that it's gone to woke and it's making a lot of people broke?

With me now to discuss, Independent Women's Forum Kelsey Bolar, along with Democratic strategist Jonathan Harris.

Kelsey, there was an article just a couple of months ago in Reuters that Disney executive Bob Chapek asked to address criticism that the company had become -- quote -- "too woke." He said, well, the company was rich in -- the world was a rich and diversified place and they wanted their content to reflect that.

But many people noticed that Disney was a place where you went for fun and didn't have to check the boxes on things that were politically correct and not yet.

KELSEY BOLAR, INDEPENDENT WOMEN'S FORUM: Yes, Charles.

We don't know the full story of why he was ousted, but we can say poor performance, financial performance, and certainly his decisions to go woke, pick fights with extremely popular politicians over pieces of legislation in Florida which were very popular amongst parents did not help.

I certainly can hope that Disney has learned its lesson that going woke certainly does contribute to you going broke. I can tell you, Charles, as a young mom of children who I would love to raise in the Disney tradition, expose the Disney magic, I am not a consumer right now because I feel the company is intent on constantly insulting my values.

So it's really important looking forward for this new chapter...

PAYNE: Yes.

BOLAR: ... for Disney is for Bob Iger to recognize the opportunity here, to recognize the difference between political indoctrination and picking fights with politicians and diversity and representation, which is a good thing.

PAYNE: Right.

BOLAR: It is something parents across the board can support and get behind.

So I do hope this is a new positive chapter, where Disney can bring back the magic for all.

PAYNE: Let's get Jonathan in.

Jonathan, I think you agree?

(LAUGHTER)

JONATHAN HARRIS, DEMOCRATIC STRATEGIST: No.

One of the things I think it's important to note is, if conservatives are hoping for some version of Ron DeSantis in Mickey Mouse ears with Bob Iger returning, they're in for disappointment.

If they will recall, it was actually Bob Iger that spoke out vehemently against the don't say gay bill. He actually tweeted that it was dangerous for vulnerable LGBTQ youth. And he went on to comment that it was wrong and actually harmful to kids.

Sol, I mean, I don't -- I don't know what conservatives think they're getting in the form of Bob Iger.

PAYNE: Well, let me ask you this, Jonathan.

HARRIS: But it's certainly not going to be a conservative mascot.

PAYNE: Let me ask you this, because I can just speak for myself, again, as a consumer, as Kelsey was saying, of certain products.

HARRIS: Sure.

PAYNE: I hate when I find out how deeply some -- how political -- the ideology of a CEO when I'm buying a product. I never -- or consuming a service, like a movie or -- there's a lot of movies and actors and things I just stop going to see, because they have rammed this down my throat.

And, sometimes, they're wrong. Remember, the Major League All-Star -- baseball All-Star Game was taken from Atlanta over the assumption that the voting -- the voting was going to be racist. Instead, they had a record turnout. So I just think they're making a huge economic and philosophical mistake.

HARRIS: I mean, I absolutely hear what you're saying.

I would just add that there are times where companies have to take a moral stand. And a lot of companies did that with the don't say gay bill. And I think Disney, being a company that had 80,000 employees in Florida, and they were being pressured.

You have to remember, Chapek actually didn't say anything at first, and he was criticized for it, and then was kind of forced -- he apologized in March for not saying anything.

PAYNE: Yes.

HARRIS: So companies do at times have to take a stand.

PAYNE: All right, by the way, I don't think the bill ever said don't say gay, but that's a whole different -- got to thank you both very much.

HARRIS: A nickname. Thank you.

PAYNE: We got to cut away a little earlier than normal -- because, first, I want to say thanks for joining us. You can catch me tomorrow at 2:00 p.m. on the FOX Business Network.

But today is a very special day around here, and I really need you to stick around, as if you would go anywhere else. But we have got the live All-American Christmas Tree lighting ceremony. It's going to happen during "The Five." You want to watch it. It's going to be absolutely beautiful.

But we will let "THE FIVE" warm you up. They start right now.

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HD **A.G. Garland Names Special Counsel In Trump Probes; Manhunt Underway For Suspect In College Stabbing; Students Speak After Idaho Campus Rocked By Murders; Student: We're Heartbroken, Scared, Emotional; Twitter Temporarily Closes Offices After Ultimatum; Musk Reinstates Some Users, No Decision On Trump; Exec Who Oversaw Enron Bankruptcy: FTX Is Worse; Biden Touts Economy As Inflation Remains High; AG Garland Names Special Counsel In Trump Probes; Paying Tribute To America's Wounded Warriors; Remembering 101-Year-Old WW2 Hero Tom Rice**

BY Martha MacCallum, David Spunt, Leo Terrell, Geraldo Rivera, Mercedes Colwin, Connell McShane, Joe Concha, Susan Li, Robert Wolf, Lucas Tomlinson

WC 8,813 words

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SN Fox News Channel: The Story with Martha MacCallum

SC HUNDD

LA English

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LP

JOHN ROBERTS, FOX NEWS HOST: Come down from upstate New York to go visit grandma and everybody through the woods and over the hill. Good luck getting through the snow.

SANDRA SMITH, FOX NEWS HOST: We wish them luck, indeed. Great to be with you, John. That does it for us. Thanks so much for watching, and thanks for joining us. I'm Sandra Smith.

TD

ROBERTS: And I'm John Roberts. We will see you again next week. THE STORY with Martha and more on the special counsel starts right now.

MARTHA MACCALLUM, FOX NEWS ANCHOR: That is right, and THE STORY goes on. Thank you very much, guys. Good afternoon, everybody. Breaking now, Attorney General Merrick Garland, appointing a special counsel just moments ago to determine if criminal charges should be filed against former President Donald Trump in connection with documents that were found during an FBI raid at Mar-a-Lago as well as the events of January 6th.

He has appointed the attorney general. Jack Smith has appointed him. He's a former Assistant District Attorney, a former war crimes prosecutor or currently was doing that, and he will be looking into both of these cases Attorney General Garland saying that his decision, he believes, is the right one. Watch this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MERRICK GARLAND, U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL: And I also believe that appointing a special counsel at this time is the right thing to do. The extraordinary circumstances presented here demanded.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: Boy, what a complicated set of circumstances this is. Chief Justice, Justice Department Correspondent, I should say, David Spunt joining me live from Washington with this breaking news that we're just getting more information on. Hi, David.

DAVID SPUNT, FOX NEWS JUSTICE DEPARTMENT CORRESPONDENT: Hi, Martha, big Friday here at the Department of Justice. Jack Smith, the newly named Special Counsel looking over the Mar-a-Lago case and January 6th case, not in Washington today with Merrick Garland because right now he's in The Hague, Netherlands, where, as you mentioned, he's been prosecuting war crimes in Kosovo. He will be back in Washington very soon. He will have his own staff. He was the former head of the Public Integrity Section here at the Department of Justice and is being praised on both sides of the aisle.

As I mentioned, he's going to be looking over not only the documents taken from Mar-a-Lago, specifically, with great interest of roughly 100 documents that the Department of Justice claims are classified, he'll also be looking into and I'm looking at the order for Merrick Garland to look to see if any person or entity violated

the law in connection with efforts to interfere with the lawful of transfer of power following the 2020 presidential election, and dealing with January 6th. Here is Attorney General Merrick Garland.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

GARLAND: Based on recent developments, including the former president's announcement that he is a candidate for president in the next election, and the sitting President stated intention to be a candidate as well. I have concluded that it is in the public interest to appoint a special counsel.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SPUNT: We have a fresh statement from Special Counsel Jack Smith, "I intend to conduct the assigned investigations and any prosecutions that may result from them independently and in the best traditions of the Department of Justice. The pace of the investigations will not pause or flag under my watch. I will exercise independent judgment and will move the investigation forward expeditiously and thoroughly to whatever outcome the facts and the law dictate."

Martha, it's important to note the timing here is not coincidental, as Merrick Garland and Attorney General mentioned former President Trump announced his intentions to run. President Biden has said he intends to run and you're getting ready to have a Republican-led House of Representatives who plans on investigating the Department of Justice dealing with many of these issues, taking the helm in just a few months. So, this is something that keeps Merrick Garland out of the political crosshairs today. Martha.

MACCALLUM: David, thank you very much. With that, for reaction to this huge news today, we bring in Brett Tolman, Former US Attorney and Executive Director of Right on Crime; Leo Terrell, Constitutional Attorney and Fox News Contributor; and Geraldo Rivera, Co-Host of "THE FIVE", also an attorney. Good to have all of you with us, gentlemen. Let's go down the line. You know, and start with you, Brett. Your reaction to this big development just a short time ago?

BRETT TOLMAN, FORMER U.S. ATTORNEY: Well, it's a brilliant move if, if your assessment is politically, and that's, that's definitely a brilliant move by Merrick Garland. It is now you know, out of his hands and whichever way it goes, he no longer has to be the one that bears the brunt of the decision-making on this. But the hypocrisy is what is offensive. It's not a brilliant move for the Department of Justice. I've never been a fan of special prosecutors, Martha, I've said that for a long time all of the Department of Justice they're all special prosecutors.

But this is being done more and more often. I was not a fan, you know, when, when Starr was appointed, and I was not a fan when, when Mueller was. But the reality is now you have to ask yourself, how do you, under this criteria, appoint this special prosecutor and not have done it in the Biden situation where you have an insider on a conspiracy involving Hunter Biden and funds funneling to the big guy. How do you not appoint it in that circumstance but you do here?

MACCALLUM: Yes. I mean, it's a question that maybe is not answered yet. Jonathan Turley was also speaking about this saying that there is a need for an outside special counsel in that situation as well, pretty much for the same reasons that the Department of Justice has chosen to do one in this case. You have two gentlemen who are likely to both be running again, they have both expressed that, that's their plan at this point. Leo, what do you think about this appointment?

LEO TERRELL, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: Well, I think you need a special counsel. But Martha, look at the timing of this. And as Brett said, why not a prosecutor, a special prosecutor for Hunter Biden, and the big guy? This, they have known the facts about them for 18 months -- two years. But the situation here is the motivation, Martha. Within 24 hours of the House announcing an investigation to Hunter Biden, you got Merrick Garland coming out today and making this appointment.

Martha, the sad thing about this is, if anyone believes this is going to be a legal proceeding, forget it. Politics is all involved in this. It's the intertwining of politics, and, and the law. And what has happened, Martha over the last two years, the weaponization of the Department of Justice. You're going to have a lot of conflicts, you're going to have House investigations going on, you're going to have Jim Jordan, investigating Department of Justice as to the weaponization.

You're going to have an overlap, and the question is, are we going to get real legal justice? Or is there a political motivation behind every decision that's going to come out of these investigations. We don't know that.

MACCALLUM: We have another sound bite from Merrick Garland's announcement. Let's play that and then we'll get Geraldo's thoughts.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

GARLAND: I am confident that this appointment will not slow the completion of these investigations. And I also believe that appointing a special counsel at this time is the right thing to do. The extraordinary circumstances presented here demanded.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: So, it was the Department of Justice's decision to do the raid on Mar-a-Lago, Geraldo, to send them in. Now, he's turning this over to someone else with regard to that, those documents and also January 6th, what's your take?

GERALDO RIVERA, FOX NEWS HOST: You know, I have a lot on my mind about this one, Martha. Let me start with the fact that I agree with our previous guests that special prosecutors are self-perpetuating entities -- they start in business, they say it's going to be prompt, they've got to step up, they've got to research these all from zero. They have their own budgets, they have their own sphere of influence, and they go, they go, they go, they go forever.

I have made it very clear that I believe that my old friend, Donald Trump, forfeited any right to run for president the United States again, because of his conduct on January 6th, and in the weeks, the days and weeks leading up to January 6th. I've made my political position very clear, having said that, Donald Trump has already been impeached for exactly these charges concerning the insurrection of January 6th. That's what impeachment is for, impeachment is in lieu of criminal prosecution of a president of the United States.

He has been impeached history will mark that stain on him forever, but to now have a special prosecutor go over that same ground, to me, I submit is double jeopardy, in so far as the documents are concerned. Why is it that the American people on both sides of the aisle have not bought in to the, the importance of this cache of secret documents in Mar-a-Lago? It's because that's the kind of case that you usually take care of, get a court order, let them defy a court order to turn over these documents.

This is not, you know, Russian secrets being peddled, you know, between spy and versus spy, and versus nuclear bombs and all that. This is petty stuff that should have been handled administratively, not with a dramatic pre-dawn raid on a president, a former president's home. What -- my God, that was totally overreaction. So, to summarize, this is about impeachment. He's already been impeached. A special prosecutor is unnecessary. And the documents cases is in the American people's minds almost irrelevant. Martha.

MACCALLUM: Yes, quick thought, Leo.

TERRELL: Martha, can I make one comment? Yes, I mean, for Geraldo, respectfully Geraldo, for you to say President Trump has forfeited his right to run for office, you're wrong. There's no legal basis to say that. That is a personal opinion. And Martha, that's exactly what I'm talking about the political and legal entanglement.

He has no justification for saying that and impeachment is not a conviction in the eyes of the law. And last time I checked, they have gone up to President Trump since 2016, and you're innocent until proven guilty. As of today, Martha, President Trump has not been found guilty of anything, but yet you have this type of hyperbole of he forfeited his right to -- he hasn't forfeited his right to lose anything.

RIVERA: That's a political decision and that's my personal opinion, Leo.

MACCALLUM: Yes, that's his opinion, Leo. That's Geraldo's opinion.

RIVERA: That's my opinion.

MACCALLUM: Yes, exactly.

RIVERA: And he was impeached for it.

MACCALLUM: All right, gentlemen, this story is just beginning. So, we're going to continue to cover and we thank you all for being here today to weigh in. Geraldo, Leo and Brett, thanks very much.

So, we're going to turn our attention here for a moment to some horrible new details that are emerging from the coroner's report, about what may have transpired in the moments before these four Idaho students were brutally stabbed to death as one victim's sister warns students that they should get off the campus and go home immediately. We will speak to two students who knew these victims have spent time in that house, next.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Even my children went to school with these kids and they know them personally, so it's a hard thing for everyone to accept.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: So, not since the Amanda Knox case when the American student or boyfriend were accused of stabbing her roommate has a brutal college killing, gripped the attention of the nation in the way that this story has.

And it has raised so many questions about who did this? How did they do it? Why did they do it?

The Moscow, Idaho killer who slaughtered these four students in the prime of their lives is out there somewhere at this hour. And now people are starting to speak out.

Jeffrey Kernodle says his daughter, Xana's autopsy shows that she tried to fight off her killer.

The sister of Kaylee Goncalves warns U of Idaho students to get out now. Saying, "You are not safe until this sicko is found."

Two University of Idaho students who knew some of these victims join me now Madison Fitzgerald, and Tanner McClain. Madison and Tanner, I know you're both in university leadership. And we thank both of you for being with us today. I know this is just an unimaginably hard time for all of you, as you head off to Thanksgiving.

Madison, tell me a little bit about your relationship to some of these individuals. And when is the last time that you were in that house.

MADISON FITZGERALD, STUDENT, UNIVESITY OF IDAHO: I don't recall the last time I was in that house. I was very close with Xana and Ethan. It was Xana's home. And she was just the most welcoming and kind person that I'd ever known.

A lot of people came in and out of that house just because of how kind all four of them were. And welcoming to have visitors and guests over all the time.

Ethan and Xana, it was a pleasure to know them. And this is something that's truly rocked our community.

MACCALLUM: Let me ask you this Madison from being in the house. You know how -- I understand that there were several bedrooms on three different floors, was Xana's bedroom on the same level as the other two women's bedroom? How close together were they?

FITZGERALD: I'm -- believe that Xana's bedroom was on a different floor than the other two bedrooms.

MACCALLUM: And what about the other two roommates? And I believe we have pictures of the other two roommates who thankfully survived this, and are cooperating were understood. Where was their bedroom?

FITZGERALD: I'm not sure where their bedrooms are located.

MACCALLUM: Can you explain how, you know, how you would enter the house when you went there? Did you go through this sliding door that we're hearing about? Or did you have to use a code to enter the house to visit Xana -- or Xana and Ethan?

FITZGERALD: There were two points of entry to the house. Most frequently, people use the door that was located on the basement. And then you took a set of stairs to get to the main floor?

MACCALLUM: And was it your experience that you would -- that you knew the code, or that people knew the code? Or was it, you know, did you have to use the code to enter the house?

FITZGERALD: When I would go there, the code wouldn't be activated. So, we could just open the door and get in.

MACCALLUM: OK. Tanner, you're the student body president. I'm sure that, you know, that's important, leadership at this moment. What was your relationship to these individuals? And what can you tell us about them?

TANNER MCCLAIN, STUDENT, UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO: So, I knew Xana and all four of them surely touched the countless students on campus. The lives of countless students, they, they're each, you know,

social butterflies would always be saying hi to them out around campus or off campus. And, you know, the impact has been felt across the entire Vandal community.

It's been -- it's been extremely difficult since their loss, and they're just -- they were close with everyone I knew and all my friends, and which is why this past week, students have been leaving. I look myself because of just how difficult it's been in Moscow, emotionally right now.

(CROSSTALK)

MACCALLUM: Of course.

So, the two other individuals who lived in the house, the other two women, Bethany and Dylan. Did either of you know Bethany or Dylan? Do you know them?

FITZGERALD: I didn't know them personally. But I heard that they were of the same light, kind -- genuine individuals.

MACCALLUM: Tanner, have you ever heard about a stalker on campus or anything to that effect? There were reports that there was someone that some people were concerned about back in September?

MCCLAIN: Back in September, there was a Vandal alert sent out students. Someone on a sidewalk did make some sort of thread, but I can't speak to that. That's someone on the sidewalk did make some sort of thread, but I can't speak to that. That's more of a question for the Moscow authorities.

MACCALLUM: So, Tanner, you know, what are you all thinking about what happened here? Obviously nobody knows for sure, you know. But do you feel like this is an outsider, or that this is somebody that they likely knew?

MCCLAIN: I really don't want to speculate on this. You know, right now students want answers. And all of us are very heartbroken, scared, and emotional during this time.

But I can't speculate as to what happened, although we can do, as assume bodies hope and pray that the authorities make some quick discoveries and bring somebody to justice.

MACCALLUM: Absolutely. Madison, you know, in the beginning, the police said that they believed it was an act of passion or a targeted account and that other people didn't have to be concerned. How do you feel about that now?

FITZGERALD: I fully trust what the Moscow P.D. and what the university are saying about our safety within the community and on campus. I do know that students are facing imminent fear right now and are fleeing campus because of that.

I, as Tanner said, I hope that we come to a quick discovery, and are able to bring someone to justice.

MACCALLUM: Yes. It's horrible, horrible. And I, you know, we all feel for all of you and your community at the University of Idaho. Thank you both for being here. Come back, if there's more to say, and good to have you both. Thanks for your time today. We do appreciate it.

MCCLAIN: Thank you.

FITZGERALD: Thank you.

MACCALLUM: With that, I'm going to bring in Mercedes Colwin, Fox News legal analyst and criminal defense attorney. Mercedes, what is jumping out at you when you hear this story from these students, and when we learn a little bit more detail about the weapon that was used in this?

MERCEDES COLWIN, FOX NEWS LEGAL ANALYST: True.

MACCALLUM: And we're going to look at it. Listen to something from the corner in just a moment. What jumps out?

COLWIN: Well, certainly the key information just given to you in your -- in your discussion with Madison just a moments ago, is the fact that there was an open door.

Because there had been a lot of speculation that, perhaps, the individual who murdered these four students actually knew the students.

But now that we know that the doors actually -- there was an open door, there is an entry, it could likely have been a stranger. The other part that jumped out at me immediately was the weapon itself.

The fact that it was a knife as opposed to a gun. There is nothing to indicate there is been a burglary that this somehow was a burglary gone wrong. And the fact that these students were attacked in the middle of the night.

The other part that is so -- in especially with Kernodle's father that came forward and said, My daughter had defensive wounds.

MACCALLUM: Yes.

COLWIN: Xana had defensive wounds, she fought for her life. So, that begs the question, if you have other individuals within the home, how could they not have heard the struggle?

And a key question that you asked Madison just moments ago is where were the bedrooms? So, she confirmed that Xana and Ethan's room was not on the same level as Madison and Kaylee, the other two victims.

So, it starts to -- it starts to create this universe that perhaps there was some commotion, and it wasn't heard. But what does this all mean, at the end of the day? There is still so many unanswered questions.

And even the food truck is become now focus of attention.

MACCALLUM: Yes.

COLWIN: Because we know that Madison, Kaylee were there in the middle of the night shortly before they were murdered. So, there are a lot of unanswered questions, and little by little, we're starting to put those pieces of the puzzle together.

MACCALLUM: Yes. And the images that we now have of the other two housemates whose names have been identified as well today, and the police say that they are cooperating, that they are not suspects at this time.

So, obviously, a lot to follow here. Thank you very much, Mercedes. Good to see you.

COLWIN: My pleasure. Great to --

MACCALLUM (voice over): So we're going to hop out of that, because we have some breaking information that is just coming through. New reaction from the former president to the fact that there is now a special counsel investigation launched by Attorney General Merrick Garland into two cases with regard to the former President Donald Trump.

He tells Fox News that he won't partake. Saying, "It is not even believable that they're allowed to do this. This is the worst politicization of justice in our history."

Garland has appointed Jack Smith to determine if criminal charges should be filed against the former president in connection with January 6, or the documents that were found during the raid at Mar-a-Lago.

Brett Tolman, Leo Terrell, Geraldo Rivera are our panel on this discussion throughout this hour. They will be back shortly to rejoin us with the new information coming from the former president just moments ago.

Also, breaking late today, Elon Musk, reinstating some booted users back on to Twitter as employees who refused to sign on for the hardcore Twitter that Musk is asking now of his employees resigning in droves, according to reports, and saying #riptwitter on Twitter, where else?

Connell McShane is here, Joe Concha with the latest in this fascinating saga of Elon Musk when we come back.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ELON MUSK, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, SPACEX, TESLA, AND TWITTER: The good sign as to whether there is free speech is someone you don't like allowed to say something you don't like. And if that is the case, then we have free speech.

And it's damn annoying when someone you don't like says something you don't like. That is a sign of a healthy, functioning free speech situation.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: OK. Breaking moments ago, Elon Musk reinstating the Twitter accounts of Kathy Griffin, Jordan Peterson and The Babylon Bee. No decision yet, according to Elon Musk on whether or not the former president will -- Donald Trump will be readmitted to Twitter.

This comes after Musk gave Twitter staffers an ultimatum, saying you have to pledge to work in Twitter 2.0. We're going to work long hours, high intensity, or just click here, and let us know that you're leaving, you're going to get three-month severance.

So, now, a lot of them are reportedly taking him up on that. And he has made new demands for the people who are left. According to The Verge, Musk e-mailed the staff, "Regarding remote work, all that is required for approval is that your manager takes responsibility for ensuring that you are making an excellent contribution."

Any manager who falsely claims that someone is reporting to them as doing excellent work, or that a given role is essential, whether remote or not will be exited from the company." So a high bar for work from home and a lot of oversight of that employee if they do get to work from home.

With that we bring in Fox Business chief national correspondent Connell McShane and Joe Concha, media and politics columnist for The Hill and a Fox News contributor. Great to have you all here.

Joe, let's start with the first part, which is that he's reinstating people to Twitter. And he is basically saying, look, free speech is free speech. If someone says something you don't like, it doesn't mean that they don't have the right to say it.

JOE CONCHA, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: Precisely. And the Babylon B, which is one of the great accounts you'll ever see on Twitter, just the most hilarious stuff you'll ever read. They were banned because their humor is considered conservative humor, so therefore the old Twitter kicked them out. As far as all these layoffs are concerned, or at least, the offer for severance is concerned, it appears what Elon Musk is doing is saying, look, the old saying is that 10% of your employees do 90% of the work. So he's trying to weed out all those people who are either, a, disloyal to the company looking to disrupt it from within, like a cancer almost. He's removing the tumors and trying to find out who are those 10% that we could build the new Twitter around public, Connell, take it.

CONNELL MCSHANE, FOX BUSINESS CHIEF NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT: Well, he called a meeting actually for this afternoon, it'd be 5:00 PM Eastern, I think 2:00 PM Pacific Time. He said to all the engineers at Twitter that you have to come into the headquarters in San Francisco, and he wants them to show up in person. He literally said in an email that was sent to the employees.

If you can get on a plane and come in-person from wherever you are, do that otherwise I'll speak to you remotely. But he wants to see what their code has achieved, that's what he said. Send me copies of, you know, the code you've written and what it's done for us. And he wants to see that today. And he says he'll be there till midnight tonight, right? And then he's going to come back to the office early tomorrow morning. And he wants to see all of these people who, I guess to Joe's point, opted in and chosen to stay. He wants to meet with them and talk, I suppose, about the future of Twitter and what they can do.

GUTHRIE: Yes. I find this so fascinating, right? That people are horrified that he wants to make this a profitable company.

MCSHANE: Yes.

MACCALLUM: It's not a profitable company.

CONCHA: Right.

MACCALLUM: Twitter. And he's saying, look, I own this now, so I have a vested interest. He also -- I find this very interesting. He's saying this is a software and engineering company, and a platform. And he eliminated the human rights accessibility and communications team. And to me that says quite, Connell. That says that he is saying, what we've heard from other social media companies, that, you know, this is just an open platform, right? And that is all about the engineering and the ability to provide that platform and make it work really well. It's not about deciding what's on it or not on it.

MCSHANE: Right. And that was a clear message that he sent in that particular tweet today. I actually brought my iPad to the studio today, because I figured maybe he would tweet again. That's how we've been learning about almost everything that he has planned again. I mean, for example, I mean, people said to him, he says, what should Twitter do next? He literally said that today just threw it out as a big, you know, question to everybody.

And someone responded, and this just shows you that he is not -- he says all. I know people criticize Elon Musk, he doesn't have any standards. He's going to let anybody back on. Someone actually literally said bring back Alex Jones, the conspiracy theorist, and Elon Musk responded, no. He said no.

So he's responding in real time to people about what he wants this platform, I guess, to look like. And that said, he even implied today that he's going to make mistakes, has made some mistakes and something to the effect of Twitter's done some dumb things and will do some dumb things as his term over the next few months. And, you know, we've seen that with the back and forth over the blue checkmarks and all the rest there, have been some missteps.

MACCALLUM: There are seven Democrats, Senate Democrats sent a letter to the FTC, Joe. Real quick answer on this, if you can, calling for a crackdown on Twitter. They're not happy with the direction of this.

CONCHA: Oh, that's the government's job to do that, right?

MACCALLUM: They'll drive the company now.

CONCHA: Again, these Facebooks, and you talk about Twitter, you talk about these layoffs. 10,000 had been laid off at Amazon, 11,000 at Meta, 2000 at Microsoft. Nobody is talking about those companies because Elon Musk is a political target.

MACCALLUM: Yes, it's a great point. And I think a lot of this is calling out employees who are not really productive anymore.

CONCHA: wailing and calling.

MACCALLUM: Exactly.

CONCHA: Yes.

MACCALLUM: Thank you guys. Good to see both.

MCSHANE: Thank you, Martha.

MACCALLUM: So we're learning more about the soared scandal and the t-shirt and shorts clad CEO of FTX, who hobnob with the rich and famous while reportedly keeping track of next to nothing, according to these reports, deleting data all along the way. There he is with Bill Clinton and Tony Blair, not dressed for the occasion, I might add. This has been called a "complete failure of corporate control." Susan Li and Robert Wolf know a lot about what is happening here. They're next.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CHANGPENG ZHAO, BINANCE CEO AND CO-FOUNDER: He lied to his users, he lied to his investors, he lied to his employees, and he also lied to regulators all around the world, including politicians in the US.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: The crypto crash that has all these celebrities lawsuits for their involvement with this company way worse than the Enron collapse, according to the executive who cleaned up the mess there. He has now come in. He's trying to do the same thing at FTX and get his arms around this. But when John Ray started looking into what's really going on here, he said, "never in my career have I seen such a complete failure of corporate controls, and such a complete absence of trustworthy financial information has occurred here. From compromised systems integrity and faulty regulatory oversight abroad, to the concentration of control in the hands of a very small group of inexperienced, unsophisticated and potentially compromised individuals. This situation is unprecedented." That's a lot.

So the former FTX CEO Sam Bankman-Fried apparently still holed up in his penthouse in the Bahamas. Fox News has confirmed that the FBI is talking to authorities there about the extradition of the SBF back to the United States. We'll see where that goes.

Fox Business correspondent Susan Li is here along with Robert Wolf, former CEO of UBS, America's former economic adviser to President Obama and a Fox News contributor who was also involved in the aftermath of the Enron collapse. So, Robert, is this bigger and worse than that?

ROBERT WOLF, CEO, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: Well, we've talked for many, many times, I was at the Lehman crisis that weekend, this is nothing like that, which was very systemic. This is much more like

Enron meets Bernie Madoff. And when I was at UBS, we bought Enron in bankruptcy. So I understand what he's saying, incredibly too close.

This is a scam. This is a ponzi scheme. They're taking, you know, clients monies, and they're, you know, playing poker with it, and they lost almost each and every time. And I think that there's two bookends. One, it should have been regulated and, two, you had the whole idea of fear of missing out. People were, you know, from kids to adults, that everyone believed it and no one knew what they were talking about at the end of the day. And it's sad but it's going to continue to reverberate.

MACCALLUM: Yes. I think there was a feeling on the part of more mature investors, shall we say? That they didn't want to get involved in this, although some did. And younger people who were making, I mean, \$16,000 last weekend, and they think that -- and you know what, it's a tough lesson for them, but it is perhaps a good lesson in some ways to make sure you know what you're investing in.

This is their business practices at FTX according to Mr. Ray. Auto delete any communications. He had it set up so that the things that he was emailing about or texting about, or whatever, would be automatically deleted in short order. Emoji approvals for employee payments. So if you need to get paid, you just, you know, message somebody, OK, you can take that money, just completely disorganized, faulty cash management, corporate funds used to buy homes and personal items, full employee roster unknown.

So, Susan, you spoke with the Binance CEO of another crypto exchange, who was trying to help FTX at one point to stay afloat. And that's one of the interesting things about this story, how they were all kind of trying to help each other, stay afloat (crosstalk). But then he said, we're out, when he out of luck.

LI: Well, here's what happened is that, this bankruptcy from FTX really started when CZ, the Binance founder, richest man in crypto, had him on on Fox Business this morning, when he started selling about half a billion dollars worth of FTX tokens.

MACCALLUM: We have a soundbite from that. We're going to take a look and then -- go fetch on the other side. Watch this.

LI: Yes.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ZHAO: As soon as we discovered that he actually moved user funds without disclosing that, and basically he was lying to everyone. I said, look, this guy is probably going to be in a lot of trouble, most likely going to jail. I couldn't trust the data in the data room anymore. The guy has no more to lose. He's probably already in a bad position. And he will do anything to lie to get our money in. And so at that point, I couldn't trust any data in the data room.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: Yes. I guess, you know, the questions now that arise are about these other companies. Are they done very differently than FTX? Do we know?

LIKE: That's a great question. And I think you're seeing that Coinsbit, which is the biggest US crypto exchange, that stock has been depressed after this FTX collapse. And you have to remember CZ, Binance, the CEO, he, with SBF, Sam Bankman Fried of FTX, it's like Godzilla versus King Kong between the two according to Michael Lewis, who is at the FTX Bahamas event.

So the fact that FTX, Sam Bankman Fried reached out to his biggest enemy, his friend of me if you want to call him that, CZ, to help us out, buy us out, that was a big red flag that FTX was in trouble just about a week and a half ago.

But I'll tell you this, I was at the FTX Bahamas event. I was hosting a panel on Stablecoins. Everybody was there. Michael Lewis, you had a Tony Blair, Bill Clinton, everybody felt that this was the new asset class. This is going to be the future of Binance. We can't miss out on it. And it was kind of an anointing of a new king in Sam Bankman Fried.

MACCALLUM: Real quick if you can, Robert. But, you know, they keep making the comparison to other regulatory financial transactions. You know, these things happen, right? You know, these things happen. Do you agree?

WOLF: They should have been regulated? No, they don't happen. We don't have that many bankruptcies of 50 plus billion.

LI: Yes you do. Enron with \$60 billion.

WOLF: We don't have many, we had only --

LI: Madoff with 60 billion as well.

WOLF: I've been 40 years in the business, 40 years, we've only had a few. We've only had two north of 50 billion, Enron and Madoff. Lehman wasn't even 50 billion.

MACCALLUM: Yes.

WOLF: This doesn't happen. This will be -- and you kind of just went there. This will be a contagious effect because Terra is a billion, Luna is a billion, you know, Voyage is a billion, Celcius of billion. You add up this little group of assets, all of a sudden and it feels pretty damn deep. And so, my view is this is going to be another one of those, I think to Susan's point, north of 50 billion, and the reverberations are going to be months, not weeks, and that should be regulated.

MACCALLUM: I'm fascinated by what's going to happen to SBF and, you know, whether or not they're going to get him back from the Bahamas, you know, he's -- I would imagine he would be consider a flee risk.

LI: Yes. There's a hearings next month that Binance CEO says he's not going.

WOLF: And you're going to hit the celebrity stuff pretty soon. That's real.

MACCALLUM: Yes. Yes. We've already seen Kim Kardashian pay a million dollars for a similar situation, so we're going to have you back next time on that. Susan, Robert, thank you.

WOLF: Thank you.

MACCALLUM: Great to see you both. So breaking just a short term ago, we are on top of this story as President Biden now says that prices are going down slightly as we head into the holidays. We're going to have -- he held a virtual meeting with business and labor leaders, and admitted that it's going to take some time to get inflation back to normal. We're way far away from that. It's around 8%, you know, 2% is where he needed to be. Correspondent Lucas Tomlinson reporting on this from the White House. Hi, Lucas.

LUCAS TOMLINSON, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Hi, Martha. These were President Biden's first public remarks since returning from his overseas trip. He attempted to reassure Americans the economy is getting stronger.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOE BIDEN, PRESIDENT OF UNITED STATES: Inflation at the grocery store is coming down slightly. Prices for things like clothes and television, and appliances are going down as well as we head into the holidays. This week, we saw the growth and prices and business pay for goods and services to come down as well. Gas prices are down, but it's going to take -- well, it's going to take time to get inflation back to normal.

TOMLINSON: President Biden's remarks were delivered before business and labor leaders including the CEO for Ford and the president of United Auto Workers. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen also attended. This chart did not make it into the President's remarks, Martha. It shows inflation was just 1.4% when Biden was sworn into office. It's been over 7.5% all year and remains at near 40 year highs.

Biden says gas prices are down but they still remain over 50% higher than when he took office. Retirement savings have plummeted 23% this past year. Here's Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell.

SEN. MITCH MCCONNELL (R-KY), SENATE MINORITY LEADER: We stand for fiscal sanity instead of reckless liberal spending. He had created jaw dropping inflation. We stand for the pro-worker, pro-family pro-growth ideas that built the best economy for working people in a generation.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

TOMLINSON: Of course, we don't need to tell our audience about inflation. They feel it every day. Next week, Thanksgiving is going to cost a lot more, 20% more according to experts. Martha?

MACCALLUM: Lucas, thank you very much. Lucas Tomlinson at the White House.

So now, we go back to our breaking story this hour. President Biden's Department of Justice has appointed Jack Smith as a special counsel. He will oversee the two ongoing investigations into former president Donald Trump involving documents that were taken from an FBI raid at Mar-a-Lago, and the events of

January the 6th. The former president telling Fox that he will not cooperate and blasting what he sees as political bias within the department.

We are back now with former US Attorney Brett Tolman, also executive director of "Right on Crime," Leo Terrell, constitutional attorney, Fox News contributor, Geraldo Rivera, co-host of "The Five." Gentlemen, good to have you back.

So now we have heard this, Brett, from the former president, does he have, you know, how will that work? Does he have the option to not cooperate?

BRETT TOLMAN, FORMER US ATTORNEY: Yes. I mean, this is a Department of Justice investigation. They have subpoena power, they have all the authority, they'll be able to get judges to rule on. So, you know, I understand what his point is, he's exhausted with it. And you're seeing the result of special prosecution for the last six years is his mentality. He's felt like he's been under that.

So now he doesn't want to cooperate but that's really not up to him. This is going to be something that the Department of Justice has to determine whether or not they're going to be using all of the tools in their tool belt and I believe they probably will.

MACCALLUM: So, Brett, just stay with you for a moment. You know, with regard to this Mar-a-Lago investigation, the documents that they took, right? We don't really know where that stands. So now that has been turned over to this special counsel as we have now proclaimed a candidate in the 2024 election. So is that the proper thing for them to do, to get it off of the DOJ and allow this outsider to handle what was already an ongoing investigation for them?

TOLMAN: Yes. Politically, it's the right decision. It hits and ticks every box that they want right now. It keeps the fire, it keeps the conversation alive. It keeps pressure on President Trump. But the reality is, these are long standing investigations. There were teams of people that have been steeped into the January 6th investigation as well as the Mar-a-Lago investigation.

So what you're doing, you're basically just recreating the investigation again, but doing so with a special counsel that's going to be exorbitantly expensive as he assembles a team of people. And now you start to get the sense of the hypocrisy because we're I'd like to see a special counsel for example, Martha, would be what about the funds that were running through FTX that may have been going to political campaigns and laundered, what about Hunter Biden and Joe Biden. That's where these special prosecutions could have been applied, if you're applying the standard across the board to both sides equally.

MACCALLUM: Yes. Leo, the other thing that struck me is that they said they want to do this expeditiously, right, that they want to get this underway. And I just thought, boy, that, you know, the Russia collusion investigation went on for years hanging over the former president's head for his entire presidency. And now, they're very concerned about being expeditious, Leo.

Leo Terrell. Big talk, Marta. You and I know well that this is going to go on for years. It's going to go on through the '23-'24 campaign. We know this. I mean, there is no time clock on this special prosecutor. And there is no history that demonstrate that these prosecution, these special prosecutors work quickly. They work long and slow. And they're going to inherit a team. It's going to take weeks and months to get a team together, and then to rehash all this.

So it's not going to happen immediately, it's going to take a long time. And everyone knows that. It's going to wait to the political campaign season for the presidency.

MACCALLUM: I think people, Geraldo, are, you know, a little exhausted of all of these investigations, would probably like to see there be more focus on things like inflation and policy. But here we go. And you're going to have Republicans digging into Hunter Biden. We saw them first thing that they announced was that they were going to do that on the on the Judicial Committee in Congress.

GERALDO RIVERA, FOX NEWS HOST: Exactly, exactly. So the Republicans in the House of Representatives will be obsessed with Hunter Biden, the Democrats will be obsessed with re litigating January 6. And for the American people, who is working on crime, who is working on inflation, who is working on immigration, who's got their eye on Ukraine and Russia, and the possibility of World War II, who's got their eye on China?

MACCALLUM: Yes.

RIVERA: This is ridiculous. This is politics at it's worth.

MACCALLUM: You know, it might be a fox on both their houses and people might look for something new out there. We will see. Brett, and Leo, and Geraldo, thanks for sticking around guys. Great to have you all with us.

TOLMAN: Thank you.

MACCALLUM: So coming up, we're going to have a final farewell to our friend and American hero, Tom Rice, who we lost yesterday.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: Guard the legacy and honor the sacrifice, that is the mission of the American Veterans Center. For more than a decade has been presenting the Wounded Warrior Experience, telling inspiring stories of sacrifice and recovery. You can see it on Fox Business tomorrow. Here's a preview of the event hosted by our chief national correspondent Jennifer Griffin.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JENNIFER GRIFFIN, CHIEF NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT: You were diagnosed with a very aggressive leukemia. You spent almost 18 days in a coma. You didn't think you would survive. Tell me about your journey and how adaptive sports really helped you.

MATT CABLE, MONTANA AIR NATIONAL GUARD: One day at a time. I just -- I continued training every day, look in the mirror. And I just had to tell myself you know, I'd come back. It's going to come back. And so that's what I did.

GRIFFIN: Tell me about your darkest day and how sports got you through.

JOEL RODRIGUEZ, US ARMY: So I was actually injured for two years before my darkest day started. I was probably in that dark place for about a year and then, you know, after a while I didn't even realize it was gone. I just kept on training, kept on working out.

GRIFFIN: What's next for you.

RODRIGUEZ: Hopefully the Paralympics

CABLE: Kind of develop my life mantra of, you know, you're only responsible for the level of life that you've lived. It doesn't matter if the worst thing that's happened to you, is a car accident, a sickness, anything. The worst thing that's happened to you is yours.

GRIFFIN: You also have another phrase, little victories every day. Tell us about that.

RODRIGUEZ: I mean, a lot of people try to set huge goals for themselves, which is great, but it can be a little daunting and they tend to give up on those goals. So in my life, I've chosen to set little victories every single day.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: So inspiring, great stories. And they will be told during the Wounded Warrior Experience tomorrow on Fox Business at 4:00 PM Eastern from Jennifer Griffin. We look forward to that.

And now we have a final salute to a world war two hero. US Army paratrooper Tom Rice died yesterday, just a few months after celebrating his 101st birthday. He parachuted into Normandy on D-Day, and three months later, he was severely wounded in Holland but rejoined his unit in time to witness the end of the war.

I was honored to have met and gotten to know Tom Rice a bit. We spent time together in Normandy. This is a picture of us at the 75th anniversary. This is right after he had jumped out of a plane. He was nearly 100 at that point. Here he is coming in. And he celebrated his 100th birthday last year with a skydive -- this is that one, in his hometown of Coronado, California. And he joined me here on THE STORY after that jump and we talked about how he hoped to continue to inspire other Americans.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

TOM RICE, WORLD WAR II VETERAN: I have to move forward as best and as fast as I possibly can, stay in physical condition and just be a human being and gentle, and loving, and kind.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: Just be a human being and loving, and gentle, and kind that I'm telling you. That was Tom Rice's legacy. He was a paratrooper with 101st, went in on D-Day, and he was a true World War II hero. 101 years old and just a loving, generous man who loved this country, and I am so grateful that I had the opportunity, and my son had the opportunity, to meet him at that 75th anniversary at Normandy. He talked about how he just, you know, grabbed on and jumped out of the plane on D-Day, and had very little experience jumping out of planes at that point. But God bless him. Tom Rice was an amazing American and we thank him for all of his service.

That's THE STORY. We'll see you back here, Monday.

END

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IPD SHOW

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SE News; Domestic

HD **House Speaker Nancy Pelosi Announced That She Will Not Be Seeking Democratic Leadership In The House After Republicans Had Won The Majority With 218 Votes; Republicans Are Now Gearing Up For The Laundry List Of Investigations And Hearings They Have For The Biden Family, The Flawed Immigration Policies, Among Other Things; The Feds Are Now Looking To Extradite Former FTX Co-Founder Sam Bankman-Fried To Investigate Where Did He Bring Millions Of Dollars From The Company's Investors; Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer Now Saying They Must Help The Millions Of Migrants To Have Their Status Legalized In The U.S. When Back In 2011, He Strongly Contradicted Helping Migrants; Amnesty For All: Chuck Schumer Calls For Citizenship For All Illegals; Lori Is Delivering: Chicago Mayor Brags About Record Amid Crime Wave; Fox Honors Everyday Heroes At Patriot Awards**

BY Jeanine Pirro, Harold Ford, Jr., Jesse Watters, Dana Perino, Greg Gutfeld

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LP

UNKNOWN: That there is no pandemic emergency right now. The underpinning for this just doesn't exist.

SANDRA SMITH, FOX NEWS HOST: All right. That is news. Thank you very much for joining us, both of you. You can catch me tomorrow weekdays, 1 p.m. Eastern Time for America Reports. Keep it right here on the Fox News Channel because a special edition of THE FIVE starts right now.

TD

(APPLAUSE)

DANA PERINO, FOX NEWS HOST: Hello, everyone. I'm Dana Perino, along with Judge Jeanine Pirro, Harold Ford, Jr., Jesse Watters, and Greg Gutfeld. It's five o'clock in Florida, and this is THE FIVE.

JEANINE PIRRO, FOX NEWS CO-HOST: I can't hear.

PERINO: We are live again from Hollywood, Florida for this year's Patriot Awards, and there is another amazing crowd here tonight. Give yourselves a hand.

(APPLAUSE)

PERINO: And we hope everyone is having a lot of fun. We have a great show coming your way, starting with some big news about Nancy Pelosi. The top Democrat calling it quits after Republicans took away her gavel by winning back the House.

(APPLAUSE)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

NANCY PELOSI (D-CA), U.S. SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES: We must move boldly into the future. I will not seek reelection to Democratic leadership in the next Congress. For me, the hours come for a new generation to lead the Democratic caucus that I so deeply respect.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PERINO: Pelosi's nearly 20-year grip on the Democratic Party has finally come to an end. She will stay as a member of Congress for the next two years, no word what's beyond that. Pelosi is stepping aside because there is a new sheriff in town, Republicans winning that magical number of two 18 House seats with the possibility of that majority growing with a few more races still too close to call.

Kevin McCarthy who was on track to be the next speaker. It sounds like he's ready to hold President Biden accountable.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. KEVIN MCCARTHY (R-CA), HOUSE MINORITY LEADER: It's one size gavel with the ability to subpoena and hold this government accountable, secure this border, fight to make us energy independent. Give parents a say in their kids' education and actually look what the DOJ is doing, what the DHS is doing, and others. And that's exactly what we're going to do on day one in this House.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PERINO: Judge Jeanine, Nancy Pelosi making that decision. We kind of anticipated it, but kind of interesting. She's not leaving Congress. She's just going to step down from the speakership. And then, I don't know, I guess be helping her constituents for the next two years.

PIRRO: Well, you know what's interesting that she talked about, you know, the next generation, the new generation, but I can't imagine Nancy Pelosi actually staying in Congress and not having in the House, not having the leadership role. I mean, that, I don't have any information to support that. But you know, we take her to word, she'll stay there. She could keep working, but not a leadership position.

But I think what's going to get to her is when the Republicans start their investigations that they promised during the midterms. And that's going to make her crazy because she won't have the power that she had as speaker of the house.

And I think that when they start those investigations, they should recognize that what's really important right now is the things that American people are concerned about. And that is the country going in the wrong direction. The cost of food prices and gas prices.

But I think there's also another piece that has to be looked into. And that is the issue of Hunter Biden, all of the money that he's collected from around the world and what Joe Biden's role may have been in that situation. And I think that's going to put her over the edge. But we'll see.

PERINO: A couple of members at Congress held the press conference earlier, and I talked about some of the investigations. Let's hear a little bit of that.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. JAMES COMER (R-KY): This is an investigation of Joe Biden, the President of the United States, and why he lied to the American people about his knowledge and participation in his family's international business schemes.

Documents show that he is a partner with access to an office. To be clear, Joe Biden is the big nut.

REP. JIM JORDAN (R-OH): We've went from it wasn't his laptop and it was Russian disinformation to, whatever was in there didn't affect the president's business dealings, even though he was involved, even though the laptop was real, even though it wasn't just information, we -- that's how far we've come.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PERINO: All right, Jesse, I'm sure you'll be following all of that on Primetime, but as Judge Jeanine said, there were promises made by House Republicans when they were running for the Congress. If they got the majority, they would have these hearings. So here we go.

JESSE WATTERS, FOX NEWS HOST: Yes, we learned a lot in the last 24 hours. One of those is things as Harold Ford, Jr. can party. My God.

(APPLAUSE)

GREG GUTFELD, FOX NEWS CO-HOST: Yes.

WATTERS: How many fingers am I holding up, Harold? Now if you're going to run for president, you got to get that out of your system. So --

HAROLD FORD, JR., FOX NEWS CO-HOST: You got home after I did.

WATTERS: I did. So, they have witness testimony, they have bank records, and they have the laptop, and it's probably going to show that Joe Biden committed conspiracy, wire fraud. There was involvement in

international sex trafficking through Hunter Biden and possible abuse of power and possible impeachable offenses.

Because they're saying right now, he's a threat to national security. He's possibly compromised by America's enemies. Because he was looking to sell out American gas drilling rights, cobalt to the Chinese. You know, Hunter was getting bribed by diamonds. They were co-mingling bank accounts. They had shell companies set up everywhere. Fifty other countries were involved in this.

So, at the end of the day, they're going to have to bring in people to testify. And you can't keep a lid on this for that much longer because there's suspicious wire activity coming in from Beijing, coming in from Moscow, very suspicious that they're trying to block access to.

So, when they throw these subpoenas down, it's going to look like a coverup. And I'm really proud of the Republicans for throwing down the gauntlet that hard. Now, I don't care if it's a red wave, red trickle. Nancy Pelosi is gone and --

(APPLAUSE)

WATTERS: Very happy about that as she leaves a really just vicious legacy from corruption to Obamacare. To all kinds of shenanigans and reckless spending. And the Republicans are going to put a break on the reckless spending and they're going to get out there in front. And the first thing I want to see, I want to see Fauci hold in because I want to watch him squirm. I want to see him disclose these royalties he's taking from big pharma.

And then I also want to see this little mini-Madoff mega donor come up and testify about how he bought the Senate.

(APPLAUSE)

WATTERS: So, there's a lot of things we want to get to. Also, border security, energy security, and again, just slam the breaks on Joe Biden's agenda.

PERINO: Border security, Greg, was something that, you know, it does affect everyone. It's not just the border states.

GUTFELD: Well, I mean, I think at a minimum we kind of want to return to normalcy, just have a normal border. Maybe stop people from stealing so much. That would be kind of nice. We, maybe men who think they're women shouldn't be in women's sports. These are just small things that we want.

I'm going to miss Nancy Pelosi and her unique eyebrows, which seemed plucked from a dying preying mantis. But I think, I don't think you're going to see her go away. I think you're going to see her go from the gavel to the Gavin. Right? Aren't they related?

PERINO: Yes.

GUTFELD: They should be related. But also, we're coming up on Christmas. It's time for a female scrooge, right? We don't have a female scrooge. She would be perfect. I am all for the Hunter stuff. We've been talking about it forever, but I want to talk about something else and bring back the memories of the early five.

When there's gridlock and there's budgets, there's talks of budgets, it's some of the most boring stuff in the world, but the most boring things in the world are often the most important. So, we're going to talk about government shutdowns. Now do you remember how every conversation about a government shutdown was the end of the world?

Do you remember that if one national park closed, we were all going to die. And now the people that are saying that were behind the biggest shutdown of all time.

PERINO: Yes.

GUTFELD: COVID. And it didn't bother them at all. So, I want you to remember that when the fight comes over funding. Funding is boring, but the fight will come. And when we start cutting funding, they're going to say, the country will die. Granny will die. Everything will die. But you got to remember, they proved us wrong just a few years ago when, whatever, a few months ago, when they shut down the country, they were totally fine with that. We're still here, so I think that's going to be baloney.

But I would like to see, I would definitely like to see all the things that the Democrats took from us, barring Harold. And it's good to see her up. I try, I smoothed it, I smoothed it over with the Florida police. I said -- I said that you thought it was a nude beach.

PERINO: Wow. I mean, I guess the judge and I really miss that one.

GUTFELD: But the thing is, Democrats took a lot from us.

FORD: Yes.

GUTFELD: They took law and order. They took safety and security. They took actual things. They took our money.

PERINO: Yes.

GUTFELD: So, it's like at the, at the -- at the most basic level, what you want from a Republican held Congress is just to return some of the stuff that was already taken away. That's it. Gridlock. Gridlock is boring, but it's important.

PERINO: Yes. Gridlock can be good.

GUTFELD: Yes.

PERINO: So, Harold, would you like to defend yourself and also talk about Nancy Pelosi?

FORD: I have no idea what these guys are talking about. They're my pals. And --

GUTFELD: It's natural that you wouldn't remember it.

FORD: So, Nancy Pelosi, I understand that there's a desire and, but everyone has every right to want Republicans in charge. But when Derek Jeter retired from baseball, the Red Sox congratulated him in clap. That was his biggest rival. She was a formidable for Republicans. She was even a formidable for some Democrats at times.

I ran against her to be the minority leader of the, Democrat -- the minority leader of the Congress back in 2002. She's proven to be an extraordinary leader, whether you agree with her or not, she's the only speaker who won the speakership, lost it, won it again, and lost it, in just 16 years. So, I congratulate her.

She's a bridge to where Democrats were, are, and probably are going, and I congratulate her for opening the doors for new generation of leadership to be ushered in into Congress.

Two, in all the polling data that I saw about why people should go and vote for Republicans over Democrats this last election, I don't recall at any of the top 10 being an investigation of Hunter Biden, an investigation of Dr. Fauci or investigation of some of the things that they're talking about, but they have every right to do that.

I do hope we have an equal emphasis, if not more of an emphasis on legislating then we do investigating. I don't mind investigating. Let me hold --

(CROSSTALK)

WATTERS: You don't get to say that after the Russia hoax, Harold.

FORD: They just --

WATTERS: That was two years of the Russia hoax. No one voted for that investigation.

(APPLAUSE)

FORD: But at some -- but at some point -- but at some point, but at some point, the payback on top of payback on top of payback, on top of payback has to stop. This is not third grade.

WATTERS: So you say you punched me in the mouth and, let's not fight anymore.

PIRRO: Yes. Why is it Republicans want to have to buckle?

FORD: But let me finish my point. Because the people expect people in politics to legislate and lead. If they want to have a hearing on the best police practices around the country so we can employ employed in Chicago, in New York, in Los Angeles if they want to have a hearing on education rights and how parents are involved, the model way for parents to be involved around the country so we can do it in Memphis, in Birmingham, in Miami, in Dallas.

If you want to have a hearing on border security, how we should build a wall, put more judges down there, judge, so we can figure out who deserves asylum, who doesn't. And for that matter, bringing in new

workers that can -- that can help our country. Those are the hearings I want them -- want them to have. And if they want to investigate Hunter and Joe Biden and Dr. Fauci --

WATTERS: No. If you want to have a hearing on whether or not President Biden sold the country out to the Chinese.

(APPLAUSE)

FORD: And you know what? Wait, ask him. But my only point is this, if that's where the focus is over the next two years, there'll be a Democratic speaker.

WATTERS: We can walk in chew gum at the same time.

GUTFELD: By the way, you know --

FORD: And spit.

GUTFELD: You know who was colluding with the Russians last night, Harold. He had like had seven white Russians. Seven white Russians.

FORD: I -- my mom. All of this is false. This is a lie on the part of my friendship.

PERINO: We still want you to run for president anyway.

PIRRO: Yes.

PERINO: Don't you worry.

GUTFELD: Yes.

PERINO: All right. Coming up next, Democrats can't run away fast enough after the stunning collapse of their biggest crypto king donor.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

GUTFELD: Welcome back to the real Hollywood, Hollywood, Florida where the forecast is liberal tears. Democrats still reeling over the downfall of their top donor in favorite crypto scammer, Sam Bankman-Fried. Seen here looking like a cross between Nancy and Sliggoo. He apparently went to the same barber who cut Phil Spector's hair.

The feds are hot on his trail and could extradite Sam from the Bahamas back to the U.S. They probably want to know where \$1.7 billion of his customer's money went. Personally, I'd start looking to see if the cash wound up in Nancy Pelosi's freezer along with her ice cream, because Sam Bankman roll the Dems to the tune of 40 million bucks. But all Maxine Waters doesn't want to talk about that.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNKNOWN: Do you think some lawmakers that got donations from FTX's founders should give that money back?

REP. MAXINE WATERS (D-CA): Well, I don't want to get into that. As a matter of fact, both sides, Democrats and Republicans have received donations, so thank you.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GUTFELD: So, Jesse, everybody else does it. But the fact is this is not, we're not talking about bitcoin. We're talking about real money that was taken by people. I mean taken from real people by people.

WATTERS: Yes. And then plowed into the Democrat Senate campaign. So, he bought the Senate for the Democrats. And has committed all sorts of atrocious financial crimes, bigger than Enron, bigger than Madoff, and he's still sitting in the Bahamas trying to raise money.

GUTFELD: Yes.

WATTERS: Why isn't he shackled by the FBI? If this guy was a Republican donor he'd probably be sitting in solitary confinement right now.

PIRRO: Yes.

WATTERS: So, he -- the Democrats are so greedy. It doesn't matter where the money comes from, it doesn't matter how it's been made, it doesn't matter how dirty is, they just say, give it, give it, give it, give it to me, and this is what happened.

Remember Avenatti, they can't see any sort of red flags. Would you give millions of dollars to a guy with hair like that?

GUTFELD: No.

WATTERS: I mean, he looks like Booger from "Revenge of the Nerd." That stresses worse than Fetterman.

GUTFELD: That's good.

WATTERS: And he's sleeping with half of his staff. He's in a polyamorous relationship. How has he not been Me-Tooed. And then the other main squeezes with, he gives a \$2 billion loan to, and she goes, I don't know how to do arithmetic. And by the way, crypto is a big scam.

GUTFELD: Yes.

WATTERS: It doesn't make any sense to me. And he goes On Chuck Todd's show, and he's shaking. He's physically shaking. No one goes on Chuck Todd's show and shakes. It's the easiest interview in the world. So, you mean all these things are popping up? He's hanging with Bill Clinton. Any businessman associated with Bill Clinton is obviously sketchy.

So, the FBI needs to get their asses in gear, or at least Maxine, no relation needs to do something when she takes charge in the -- in the -- when she's an underrated.

GUTFELD: Wow. For a minute through, I thought you guys were related.

WATTERS: Yes.

PIRRO: Yes.

WATTERS: Very close.

GUTFELD: Glad he pointed that out. Harold, I'll try to make this as short as possible because I know it's, you got a headache.

FORD: Fake news.

(APPLAUSE)

FORD: Yes.

GUTFELD: So, Jesse makes a great point, which is rare, and we should give him credit for that. That this guy is way, way too unattractive to be a billionaire. Because billionaire, I mean, because you'd fix everything. Right? So clearly, like he doesn't have the money. If you were meeting him, he'd go, there's no way this 28-year-old has a billion dollars.

He is so, you would at least have a decent barber. Why are Democrats so stupid, Harold, is what I'm saying?

FORD: So, this, the investigation that Congress is going to pursue in this matter is the first time that Maxine Waters who chair of the committee up until January, and the ranking member who will be the chairman, a guy named Patrick McHenry, is the first time they've agreed on a hearing they want to hold, and they're going to hold this hearing in December and they'll do it jointly, number one.

Number two, I think anyone that received any contributions from, I can't even pronounce a young man's name, but Sam.

GUTFELD: I understand it was a rough night.

FORD: Anyway, and anyone -- anyone that received the donation. It might have been three to one Democrats, but there were Republicans who got it too. They should all give the money back. I don't think you hold a politician accountable for something he or she didn't know when the money was given. You may not like his business, or you may think his business is not, so you wouldn't go into that business. But you can't, judge, you can't -- you -- it's a legal business the guy was in.

Number three, they should regulate this. They should regulate this space.

GUTFELD: Yes.

FORD: And they -- Judge, you and I know sometimes you can regulate a space, but if a person is just really bad, and a terrible human being. I don't know if this gentleman is, but if a person's really bad, you can't, sometimes you can't even craft laws to make it -- to make it right. But they should regulate this. They should be transparent about it, and I hope it's bipartisan. That way people have trust in the laws when it gets done.

GUTFELD: I think I heard an audible sigh from the judge, which means, judge, what do you think?

PIRRO: Bipartisan. First of all, anything that comes out of a House, the Senate isn't going to pass. And if they do pass it, the president isn't going to sign it. They're not going to allow any of us to look like we've got anything positive going for the American people. That's number one.

Number two, the New York Times runs an article about Sam Bankman-Fried or Fried. What is Fried?

FORD: You can't pronounce his name either.

PIRRO: Yes. Sam Bankman, and I wasn't out with you last night, Sam Bankman-Fried. And OK. And they say, this guy maybe got in, in over his head. He seems like a nice enough smart kid. He's got all the right things going on.

The Washington Post is in tears. They're saying, my God, the guy was trying to prevent the next pandemic.

GUTFELD: Yes.

PIRRO: So, I look up how's he trying to prevent the next pandemic by supporting Democrats who say they want to prevent the next pandemic. It's like 80 percent of the money wants a Democrats, it's not going to Republican. They gave it to Republicans so they could say it was bipartisan.

And let me tell you one more thing. The kid is a liar. He's a liar. He says he's a vegan and he look like, like this, like that like an ice cream advertisement. OK?

(APPLAUSE)

PIRRO: And finally, let me just say, the guy should have been extradited already. We have an extradition treaty with the Bahamas.

WATTERS: Yes.

PIRRO: Lock him up. Move them in.

GUTFELD: Yes.

PIRRO: But that's our --

(APPLAUSE)

PIRRO: That's our Justice Department.

GUTFELD: Dana, I think you might agree with me that we need less virtue signaling and more virtue.

PERINO: Yes, we do. That's a good idea.

GUTFELD: Yes.

PERINO: You know --

GUTFELD: Harold said that to me in the -- in the bathroom.

PIRRO: Last night.

PERINO: Last night?

GUTFELD: Yes.

PERINO: That was some signaling.

FORD: Thank you.

PERINO: That was some signaling you all were doing last night.

GUTFELD: Yes. He signaled a lot of shots.

PERINO: I guess, I guess. So, one of the things that Sam Bankman-Fried said is that he was donating this money and that he would do it to liberal causes, right? And that - and he then admits in an exchange with a reporter from Vox News.

PIRRO: Yes.

PERINO: V-o-x. That he did it because it gave him the, as you used to call it.

GUTFELD: What?

PERINO: The scandal condom.

GUTFELD: The scandal condom.

PERINO: Do you remember the scandal condom?

GUTFELD: Yes. Yes. It keeps you --

PERINO: Clinton Global Initiative.

GUTFELD: Yes. If you put everything in the climate change, no one comes after all of your like philandering --

PERINO: Yes.

GUTFELD: Or whatever you're doing. Hunter did that.

PERINO: Yes.

GUTFELD: Everybody did that. I should do that. Why did I think of that? My life would be so much better.

PERINO: Anyway, that's why I was just thinking that he really, he really did that and it exposes it. Well, these things happen all the time. If you would not invest your mother's money in a company, then think twice before you invest in it yourself.

GUTFELD: Good point.

PERINO: OK.

GUTFELD: Excellent job. All right, we got to go because Harold looked kind of pale.

FORD: He just looks like that.

GUTFELD: Much more to come from Florida, including crying Chuck Schumer's call for amnesty for millions of illegal immigrants.

(APPLAUSE)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

PIRRO: Welcome back from Hollywood, Florida.

The Democrats gearing up for an amnesty free-for-all in a move that's only going to make matters worse at the border. Chuck Schumer says we should welcome with open arms millions of illegal immigrants.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. CHUCK SCHUMER (D-NY), SENATE MAJORITY LEADER: Immigrants make us stronger now more than ever. Now more than ever. We're short of workers. We have a population that is not reproducing it on its own with the same level that it used to.

The only way we're going to have a great future in America is if we welcome and embrace immigrants, the DREAMers and all of them. Because our ultimate goal is to help the DREAMers, but get a path to citizenship for all 11 million or however many undocumented there are here.

(APPLAUSE)

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PIRRO: But boy, what a contrast from way back in 2009 when Chuck was singing a completely different tune.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SCHUMER: Illegal immigration is wrong, plain and simple. Until the American people are convinced that we will stop future flows of illegal immigration, we will make no progress on dealing with the millions of illegal immigrants who are here now, and on rationalizing our system of legal immigration.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PIRRO: All right, Harold. So, here you've got Chuck Schumer saying, you know, 11 million or whatever. We need to bring him in. We need to make America stronger. And then you've got Joe Biden who's allowing all of this to happen. You've got Mayorkas who's saying the border is secure. Isn't this part of a whole Democrat agenda to bring in as many illegals as they can? And to what end do you think that might be?

FORD JR.: Well, a couple of questions there. I hope not. And I'm a Democrat and I certainly don't support, I think, the path that you think some Democrats may be on. I've said for a long time, this is a four or five-prong solution, a four or five-prong part to bring about a solution.

PIRRO: Is amnesty the solution?

FORD JR.: No. So, I hope what -- I hope what Senator Schumer was doing there was perhaps throwing out a pie-in-the-sky idea with the hopes that that'll bring people to the table to figure out how we get an answer. I said it yesterday, I've said it many times on the show, build a wall. You send more judges. You send more -- you send more judges. You put more -- you put more ICE there.

You may have to change some personnel in the Biden administration to be able to get some of this done. But we have to -- we have to secure the border for national security reasons before we can have any conversation about -- which I believe, we do need more workers in this country. But until we secure the border, we're not going to be able to build a coalition in Congress and the Senate to do it.

PIRRO: All right, given that Chuck Schumer is, you know, the Majority Leader in the Senate, they have the House right now, and they've got the Oval. Do you think they can move fast enough in before the election so that they've got them in legal and ready to vote in 2024?

WATTERS: You lame duck the amnesty? I don't think they can pull it off. But they had both chambers under Barack Obama. They had both chambers under Joe Biden. Why didn't they do immigration reform then? The minute Republicans take the House, then they want to do amnesty? What does that tell you? It tells you they don't want to solve the problem. They want to campaign on the problem And they want to paint Republicans as anti-Hispanic. That's what this is. It's just a political game.

PIRRO: OK.

WATTERS: So -- and he's also -- if Americans aren't having babies, why can't we just have more babies? Why do we have to bring in foreigners to have the babies that we won't have? Why -- maybe we just get off her iPhones and dim the lights, Judge?

PIRRO: Well, and you can do it tonight. All right, Dana, what's your response?

PERINO: Well, I think that Schumer has been super irresponsible. And you can see how he's had several different positions on the issue over time. And saying that you want to do amnesty without actually addressing the current border problem ensures that you will not get a legislative solution. And you know that Biden can't do an executive order to try to fix it because we know that will be end up unconstitutional as well.

So, tonight, at the Patriot Awards, you're going to see a sergeant from the Texas of CBP or DHS -- I can't remember. DPS -- it's called Texas DPS. He is somebody who is a pilot, and then he tracks down smugglers, and then it goes and basically what find you as a human tracker, somebody who -- people who are trafficking humans, he would find the smuggler. And that's what he does every single day.

And his life is in danger. He said that it is a situation that's so much worse than he's ever seen it before. And we're going to honor him tonight at Fox Patriot Award.

PIRRO: All right, Greg, what's the resolution?

GUTFELD: Well, first of all, you reminded me that -- it was from the a block that I neglected to mention that that's one of the hearings. We have to investigate with gait and find out Mayorkas knew that wasn't a whip but decided not to tell the president. That's something that is really valuable.

Chuck Schumer says amnesty for all. By the way, he does remind me of the penguin but without the charm. He just need a top hat and a cane at a monocle, and he's there. But he says amnesty for all because he knows that's not a compromise. He actually doesn't want it. He's not going anywhere near halfway. But his two points are kind of interesting. A declining population, that's true. And also, the desire for cheap labor. Democrats love cheap labor. Who can forget slavery?

So, I think that's where he's coming from. And by the way, he -- the reason why this was created -- why was this created? People don't need to work anymore because of stimulus, right? People are at home. You talk to people in the hotel industry, you talk to people in the bars, there aren't people showing up for work anymore, because they don't have to.

So, what you're seeing right now is a temporary solution for something -- a terrible experiment what we're seeing. Remember we're talking about guaranteed base income?

PERINO: Yes.

GUTFELD: Yes, that's where you pay people even if they're not working. We just did that two-year experiment, and it was a disaster. So, what's the solution? Bus in workers. That's what he's doing. It's a sad -- I mean, he -- they actually created the problem and are now offering a solution.

WATTERS: You're right.

PIRRO: OK.

GUTFELD: Thank you, Jesse.

WATTERS: Good point.

PIRRO: Straight ahead from Florida, Chicago's Dancing Queen Mayor embarrassing herself yet again by claiming to deliver for her city despite a massive crime wave.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

WATTERS: Dancing TikTok Queen Lori Lightfoot is at it again. The Chicago Mayor embarrassing herself with a really awkward ad for her second run at the top job.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Lori is delivering. Chicago is number one for corporate expansion and ranked best American city. She even got 5000 new Google jobs. And she was cool during COVID.

LORI LIGHTFOOT, MAYOR, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS: Hey. Did you order thousands of new jobs and a pepperoni?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

WATTERS: And she's delivered all right. She's delivered nothing but bloodshed and mayhem for Chicago. Since Lori Lightfoot took office back in 2019, murders are up 352 percent, robberies are up 11 percent, and five major companies have either left or shut down stores. Do you think this is an effect of that, Judge Jeanine?

PIRRO: I think it's about as effective as she is when it is totally not effective. The amazing part -- I mean, y'all agree on this. Look, here's the thing. The amazing party, she comes out and she says, you know, crime is down. Well, then explain why Citadel, and Boeing, and Caterpillar are leaving. And McDonald's is having a hard time recruiting because people are afraid to come to work in Chicago. And I love Chicago is a beautiful city.

But in addition to that, they can say -- I want you to know what the stats are. I mean, this is what I did. So, they've got 50 percent clearance rate on homicides. What does that mean? That means they solve half of the homicides. But of the homicides that they solved, only 50 percent of those lead to charges. That means 25 percent of the murders to someone get arrested, and that's got nothing to do with whether or not they've been convicted.

If you were shot but not killed, 85 percent of those cases are unsolved, forget -- not prosecuted. And there is a real problem in Chicago. And the belief is that crime is something that cannot be fought. And that's because of cashless bail.

WATTERS: And if Chicago is too dangerous for McDonald's, Harold, I mean, there's McDonald's in some pretty rough places, what does that tell you?

FORD JR.: Well, first off, the ad I thought was pretty clever. But you can't tell people -- let me finish my point. You --

WATTERS: They asked you to be here.

FORD JR.: Thanks for having me.

GUTFELD: Thank for having me.

FORD JR.: You can't tell voters that things are better because you have numbers that suggest they're better when people feel bad and unsafe. People -- I live in New York City. Crime is an issue and some -- the worse kind of politician is politician takes off a few numbers that have no relevance in your life. If you feel that your kids are not safe and secure, if you believe that you can't go to your car without being worried about something happening to you or park in a parking garage downtown the city, then the city is not safe. I hope the mayor focuses on that as she seeks reelection.

WATTERS: What was the worst part about that ad?

PERINO: Oh, wow, maybe the T-shirt.

WATTERS: The T-shirt?

PERINO: I think that was a little like, what are we doing? I also think she comes -- she's like, did you order some jobs? Like, how dare you? Nobody ordered some lawn order, thank you very much. And the children who are having to walk to school and their mothers fret at home because they're not sure if those kids are going to get back at night, they deserve a lot better.

She's up -- she's I think going to run for reelection and -- but a lot of these cities, they reelect them. And then what are you supposed to do?

WATTERS: That's true. I guess the one part about the ad, Greg, it made me hungry.

GUTFELD: Yes, that's for sure. That guy wasn't suffering. He doesn't have to -- he doesn't have to worry about murder because he's killing himself. Seriously, I'd have a talk with the actor about getting it -- getting into the gym.

You know, I do think you guys have this wrong about Lori Lightfoot. She cares a lot about the environment, especially climate change. And she believes that she can -- you can lower the carbon footprint by letting people get murdered. Because that lowers the human carbon footprint, right? You see how it goes? And she's not worried about them being killed because they're not voters, right. That's it.

WATTERS: All right, that is it. Don't move a muscle. The host of the Patriot Awards, Pete Hegseth is coming up next

GUTFELD: Boo. I hate Pete.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

FORD JR.: Hello, again, from Hollywood, Florida. There are patriotic Americans. And then there's Pete Hegseth. The man oozes red, white, and blue. And tonight, as host of The Patriot Awards, he's paying tribute to everyday heroes and honoring their incredible stories and sacrifices.

Pete, welcome to THE FIVE.

PETE HEGSETH, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Thank you very much.

FORD JR.: I'm going to let my one co-host who's told the truth about me today who has a great show that comes in the morning to ask the first question.

PERINO: Oh, thank you, Harold and making up the last time. Yes, so last -- yesterday, when we went for a rehearsal, and we were watching it yesterday, I'm so excited for tonight. I met somebody who's going to get an award. It's Colonel Don Patton. I don't know if you've had a chance to meet him yet. And his son is accompanying him here. Ultimate patriot and amazing, amazing guy. I think we have a couple of pictures here that we can show. And he's just one of the many people who has done incredible things for this country and never asked for anything.

HEGSETH: Nope.

PERINO: But he's going to get an award tonight.

HEGSETH: Never wants to ask for anything. And what he does he started a program to make sure the stories of World War II vets are preserved and told. And he's been doing it for decades in Minnesota to no accolades at all. And that's exactly what the Patriot Awards is about. He didn't do it for the spotlight. But tonight -- and these five will be joining me at some point -- so, it's certainly not just me, it's all of us. We're going to throw the spotlight right on the people who really deserve it, our heroes, our patriots.

FORD JR.: He's also here with his son. We met his son last night we were walking through. Greg?

GUTFELD: Yes, oozing red, white, and blue and a doctor. Have you seen a doctor?

HEGSETH: Not recently.

GUTFELD: At least a urologist. I was curious as to what is the criteria for winning an award and be specific because I wasn't nominated. I'm asking for my fan base which numbers in the hundreds of millions and billions -- shut up -- if you include the whole world. I'm just wondering why I'm not getting an award after a lot of my selfless work. And I'd like to add on that you're hair does look amazing, right?

HEGSETH: I asked them to give me the Jesse Watters look.

GUTFELD: So, wait. So, you're telling me it's fake?

HEGSETH: It could be.

GUTFELD: What is the criteria?

HEGSETH: The criteria are Greg Gutfeld is not going to win. That's the criteria. It really is -- I mean, it's probably the toughest job I'm putting together the Patriot Awards is how do you choose from first responders, to vets, to police officers. There are so many stories. That's the impossible part of it. And you were nominated, just not selected.

GUTFELD: Well, that's OK.

HEGSETH: Just not selected. You are a patriot, Greg.

FORD JR.: Jesse?

WATTERS: A lot of these other journalists get awards. We don't enter ourselves into these liberal mainstream award ceremonies and that's probably a good thing. But this seems different because we're now presenting as journalists awards to other people. Is that the goal of this event?

HEGSETH: The goal of the event is to -- there was a gaping hole and the idea of awards. So, you've got actors that play heroes on TV or Best Supporting Actress in a comedy playing somebody, and then you're ignoring the very people who are the real heroes. So, it's a layup.

WATTERS: Yes.

HEGSETH: And then -- so, they give each other awards and talk about how awesome they are while they preach at the rest of us about how horrible we are. Well, we get to preach tonight about the things that really matter.

FORD JR.: Your Honor, Your Honor, close us out here.

PIRRO: You know, Pete, this whole issue of veterans is something that is so near and dear to your heart. It's in your DNA. And I think that we really should applaud you for bringing this to Fox, for making sure that we respect the veterans. You are someone who should be congratulated. God bless you for what you do too.

HEGSETH: That's very kind of you, Judge. But one of the biggest moments from last year was we had most of the families of the 13 fallen in Afghanistan.

PIRRO: Yes.

HEGSETH: And it was it was raw, it was real, it was close to that. And they stood up and the room didn't stop clapping, and rightfully so, because that's where the spotlight goes. And we've got a few surprises tonight as well. It'll probably have the same impact. So, check it out. It's at Fox Nation. By the way if you're a veteran or first responder, one year is free on Fox Nation. So, subscribe right now. Download the app. You can watch the Patriot Awards tonight. And I promise you, you will not be disappointed. And the after-party will be hosted by Jesse Watters.

WATTERS: Co-hosted by Harold.

HEGSETH: Co-hosted by Harold Ford.

FORD JR.: We thank -- in all seriously, we thank Fox News' Suzanne Scott and Jay Wallace here. Thank you for making this a reality.

PIRRO: That's right.

FORD JR.: For making this night a great deal. Pete, thanks again.

HEGSETH: Thank you.

FORD JR.: We'll see you tonight at the Patriot Awards. "ONE MORE THING" is up next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

PERINO: All right, before we get to "ONE MORE THING," while it is nice and warm in Florida, it's beginning to feel like Christmas back in New York City. And that means we are almost ready to kick off the holidays with the All-American Tree Lighting in Fox Square. Watch THE FIVE next Monday at 5:00 p.m. for the holiday extravaganza. We have tons of fun and surprises planned, so don't miss that one.

OK, now it's time for "ONE MORE THING." Jesse.

WATTERS: All right, so here's something you'll never see in the sunny state of Florida. Look at this Michigan game, college football. A guy builds a snowman. He just goes to the game with a snowman and that snowman voted in the Michigan gubernatorial election. That's what happens.

Tonight, we got "JESSE WATTERS PRIMETIME" at 7:00. We crash a Michelle Obama book party. So, don't miss that at 7:00.

PERINO: Oh, boy. Oh, boy. All right, Greg, your turn.

GUTFELD: All right, we got a great show tonight at 11:00 p.m. "GUTFELD!" Dana Perino.

PERINO: Oh, my word.

GUTFELD: Tucker Carlson, Tyrus, and Kat. This is an all-timer. Now, it's time for this. Greg's Non-Celebrity Sighting. Well, you know what. The "FOX AND FRIENDS" kids have been working really hard in Florida. So, here they are relaxing at the beach. They took some time off. You can see Brian. You can see -- you can see Steve. Ainsley is over on the right. You can tell that Brian and Steve are drunk as skunks. They were out partying with Harold. You know, rather than go to bed, they just went to the beach and lied out there. They just started drinking again. And he called that the Harold Ford Jr.

PERINO: All right, Judge.

FORD JR.: They're my friends.

PIRRO: All right, mine is not quite as exciting but there is -- the smartest dog is a border collie. So, this border collie is 10 years old and she's walking along with her owner. She's on a leash. And apparently, a firecracker goes off and she runs away. And she's missing for about, I don't know, two or three days. And finally, she literally walks herself into a police station. She's right there walking into the police station. And she has a collar with a name on it. And they call the owner and they were reunified. And it was a very happy ending for a very smart dog. How many people go in and come out free?

PERINO: That's true. Cashless bail for that pup. All right, Harold.

FORD JR.: A 24-year-old guy named Tommy Pasquale in New Jersey decided to initiate an effort called Tommy Walks America to raise money for homeless veterans. He started his journey September 19 and plans to reach the Pacific Ocean by April of 2023. He walks 20 miles each day, pushing a shopping cart full of essentials including clothes, food, and chargers.

His goal is to raise \$100,000 for the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans of which they're staggering, staggering \$38,000. Tommy knows plenty of veterans and active duty military and says he's passionate about his activism because they've given so much to us. Tommy, thank you. I hope you watch our show tonight.

PERINO: All right, I want you to check out this little boy. And he discovered a new technology.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Is that it?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: It's books.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: What is it?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: It's not a book.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: It's a book.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: What is it?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PERINO: So, that's right. That's the little boy. And I think people in this room would understand. That little boy you thought a VHS tape was a book. But of course, we know that if it makes you feel old, you're in good company.

All right, thank you all for being with us. Let's give a round of applause for the audience. We truly love all of you. Thank you so much. That's it for us. "SPECIAL REPORT" is up next. Hi, Bret!

END

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SE News; Domestic

HD Leadership Changes Ahead As House Wins GOP; Pelosi To Step Down As Top Dem After GOP Win House; Killer Of Four Idaho College Students Still At Large; Three Convicted In 2014 Downing Of Jet Over Ukraine; Rep. Patrick McHenry (R-NC), Is Being Interviewed About Who He Expect To The Hearing On The **FTX** collapse Next Month; Pentagon: Poland Likely Hit By A Ukrainian Missile; Report: **FTX** CEO Says Didn't Intend To Lose Billions; House Lawmakers To Hold Hearing On **FTX** Collapse; House GOP Alleges Biden Knew Of Hunter's Biz Deals; Pelosi To Step Down As Top Dem After FOP Win House; Lessons Learned Fro, COVID School Lockdowns; Hegseth To Host Tonight's Patriot Awards

BY Martha MacCallum, Dan Springer, Jeanine Pirro, Jennifer Griffin, Jack Keane, Kelly O'Grady, Dana Perino, Pete Hegseth

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SN Fox News Channel: The Story with Martha MacCallum

SC HUNDD

LA English

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LP

JOHN ROBERTS, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: And then of course, the Christmas season starts. Are you ready for that at all?

SANDRA SMITH, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: I've actually started preparing earlier than I normally do this year, and I'm kind of happy about it.

TD

ROBERTS: You're a better person than I.

SMITH: All right, John, great to be with you. Thanks for joining us, everybody. I'm Sandra Smith.

ROBERTS: And I'm John Roberts. We'll see you again tomorrow. THE STORY with Martha who's always prepped for Christmas starts right now.

MARTHA MACCALLUM, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST (on camera): Working on that. Hi, guys, thank you very much. Good afternoon. I'm Martha MacCallum. This is a huge and consequential news day that we're in the middle of. Republicans have taken the majority in the House of Representatives. Right now, they're at 218, with a likelihood of picking up another couple of seats here and that sets in motion, enormous leadership changes in Congress.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. NANCY PELOSI (D-CA): And with great confidence in our caucus, I will not seek re-election to Democratic leadership in the next Congress.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: Nancy Pelosi announcing an end to her 20 years in leadership today, a historic and consequential leader for Democrats. Joining me on this today, Dana Perino, also Republican Congressman Byron Donalds, on what happens now.

Plus, the lawmaker who's leading the charge in this investigation of Sam Bankman-Fried, Congressman Patrick McHenry. Democrats such as these received enormous donations from him. His company was promoted by some of the biggest stars in the country. And now, he is scrambling to avoid a lifetime in jail what a story this is turning into. We will bring that to you this hour as well.

But first, we are going to take you to Idaho, where a shocking quadruple murder is gripping the nation. Judge Jeanine Pirro in moments but first, an update on this story from correspondent, Dan Springer, live in Moscow, Idaho. Hi, Dan.

DAN SPRINGER, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Yes. Hi, Martha. Big takeaway from last night's first news conference from the police after this quadruple murder took place Sunday morning is that they still do not have any suspect identified so they don't appear to be close to making an arrest. And because of that, the police chief had to walk back all the comments they've been saying since Sunday, that the community is not in any risk right now that there's no threat to the greater community. He walked that back completely.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SPRINGER (voiceover): We also have a better timeline. Two of the victims, Madison Mogen, and Kaylee Goncalves were seen on video at a food truck in Moscow at 1:41 a.m. Police said, the 21-year-olds had come from a bar nearby and that all four of the victims were back at the rental home a few minutes later at 1:45. The pair does not appear to be in any stress.

Now, Xana Kernodle, who also lives at that rental was with her boyfriend, Ethan Chapin, at a party in town before also returning back to the house by 1:45. Police say, the murders took place between 3:00 and 4:00 a.m. And the stunning new detail is that two other roommates of these girls were also at the house during the murders.

JAMES FRY, MOSCOW POLICE DEPARTMENT CHIEF: There's still a person out there who committed four horrible, horrible crimes. So, I think we got to go back to -- there is a threat out there, still, possibly, we don't know. We don't believe it can be to anybody else. But we all have to be aware of our surroundings and make sure that we're watching out for each other.

SPRINGER: Chief James Fry says the other roommates were not hurt, he would not call them witnesses, and said they are cooperating to the extent they can he would also not disclose who called 9-1-1 some eight hours after the murders. There was no forced entry and no evidence of a robbery. The autopsies have been completed the coroner confirming all four were homicide victims and were stabbed to death.

I was also told by the coroner, Cathy Mabbutt, that it is likely the same knife was used on all four victims. The Idaho statesman spoke with the owner of a local sporting goods shop who said police were in his store more than once asking if he sold anyone a knife like this. It's a K-bar knife with a six-inch blade commonly issued by the military. That store owner says he doesn't sell that knife so he couldn't help in this investigation.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SPRINGER (on camera): But it tells you the police are looking for a specific knife, specific length of blade. And again, the coroner telling me last night that the, they believe the same weapon was used on all four victims. Martha.

MACCALLUM: Awful. And new information. Dan, thank you very much. With that we bring in Judge Jeanine Pirro, Co-Host of "THE FIVE," she is live in Hollywood, Florida, ahead of the big patriot awards ceremony tonight. Jeanine, this is a really complex case here. And there are so many obvious questions, but I want to know what's jumping out at you right now.

JEANINE PIRRO, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: What was jumping out at me is why does it take a police department four days to say that there can be a danger to the community? Right off the bat, I'm concerned about this police department. That's number one. Number two, where did the mayor come off saying this was a crime of passion?

Number three, why did it take us so long to find out that there were two other kids in that apartment? Number four, if there was a bleeding out of these four young people, that tells me that this was as brutal as they said, but that there were also can be footprints from the bloodstains. We've got to look for that. That's something that police should be looking for.

State Police, the FBI are now involved, as well they should have been right from the get go. This is a police department that is not had a homicide in at least I don't know, six years. And in addition to that, how is it? How is it that one person that they're looking for, one person they're so clear about was able to slaughter, slaughter four young, strong individuals?

Maybe they came in at different times? Maybe it happened between 3:00 and 4:00 in the morning? We don't know for sure. But what I do know is there is no way one person does this to four people unless they've been bound, gagged, and then, I don't know if one person can do all that or unless they're incapacitated in some way. The medical examiner says there's no indication of any kind of substance that might have incapacitated them.

But how does she know? You don't get the toxicology back for a couple of weeks. What I also want to know is whether or not there is a connection between this and what happened in September, where they had a guy with a blue backpack dressed in black with a black baseball cap, who had a knife, a vicious looking knife like this Rambo knife.

Why are they so convinced it's only one knife? How do they know there weren't two knives? And in addition to all of this, who are the enemies? Who was in the house? I'm not saying that they were enemies, but how could you not know there is bleeding out of that house, Martha, both inside to outside.

MACCALLUM: I know, extraordinary.

PIRRO: So, there's a lot to look for.

MACCALLUM: Yes, you make great points. There were two people in the house, we now know who were not killed in this. And we know roughly what kind of weapon was used. But you make the point that occurred to me as well on this, how do you kill four young, able-bodied people, you know, unless they are somehow bound, or restrained, or incapacitated by some kind of means. It's an extraordinarily awful story as we head into Thanksgiving for these four families. But there are so many questions. Janine, thank you. Thank you so much. We're looking forward to seeing you all tonight.

PIRRO: Our hearts go out to them.

MACCALLUM: Our hearts go out to them, indeed. And I know the band's been warming up there. And we're looking forward to this big night. Thank you very much for taking some time with us today.

Coming up, we will speak with Dana Perino and Pete Hegseth, who will also be at the Patriot Awards later tonight.

And breaking right now, former Russian intelligence agents finally convicted in the tragic, horrific downing of a passenger plane eight years ago in Ukraine. It was in many ways the beginning of where we are now. It killed 298 people. And now there have been convictions of three Russians.

That as a missile that killed two in Poland, sparks a clash between President Zelenskyy and his global allies. General Jack Keane standing by.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: So, moments ago, the Pentagon briefing reporters have to a rare dispute with Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, denying that it was Ukraine weaponry that killed two people in Poland. Our government has ascertained that it most likely was. General Jack Keane is standing by, but first to Chief National Security Correspondent Jennifer Griffin live from the Pentagon. Hi, Jennifer.

JENNIFER GRIFFIN, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CHIEF NATIONAL SECURITY CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Hi, Martha. Well, the Pentagon is downplaying any sort of tension with Ukraine's president. They understand he's under a lot of pressure. There were another 40 or so missiles, Russian missiles fired into Ukraine today. But Ukraine's president has asked that Ukrainian investigators be allowed to see the debris field in Poland.

President Zelenskyy still insists it was not a Ukrainian missile that landed in Poland. But Pentagon officials and Polish officials seem convinced that they have seen evidence that the trajectory suggests a Ukrainian S-300 surface to air missile that missed its target. Here's Pentagon Spokesperson Sabrina Singh moments ago.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

GRIFFIN: Why aren't the Ukrainians part of the team that's investigating?

SABRINA SINGH, PENTAGON SPOKESPERSON: Well, this is Poland's investigation to lead. So, I would direct you to pull into further answer that question. We are not leading this investigation. We have offered our full support to the Polish government. But again, I wouldn't be able to speak to why particular countries are not involved in the investigation itself.

GRIFFIN: Poland's President Andrzej Duda visited the site in eastern Poland today where the missile landed killing two people about four miles from the border with Ukraine. Investigators say there is evidence of just one missile at the site. President Duda reiterated; it was not a Russian missile.

ANDRZEJ DUDA, PRESIDENT OF POLAND (through translation): I repeat once again, in our opinion, and in the opinion of our experts, the explosion was definitely an accident -- absolutely unintentional. Russia

fired several 100 missiles against Ukraine, Ukraine defended itself and in the course of these actions, unfortunately, what happened.

GRIFFIN: Meanwhile, today a significant ruling by a Dutch court convicting two Russians and a pro-Moscow Ukrainian for their role in shooting down Malaysian Airlines flight MH-17, killing all 298 people on board including 200 Dutch citizens. The Russian surface to air missile brought down this passenger plane in 2014.

Today, the Dutch court said it was a BUK missile and convicted Igor Girkin, a 51-year-old former colonel in the FSB, Russia security service, and Sergey Dubinskiy, a former Russian military intelligence officer for the crime. Martha?

MACCALLUM: Jennifer, thank you very much.

With that, we bring in General Jack Keane, former Army vice chief of staff, chairman of the Institute for the Study of War, and Fox News senior strategic analyst.

General Keane, good to have you with us.

First of all, the discussion over whose missile this was, whether it was Ukraine, any aircraft that went down in Poland or Russian missile, what do you make of it?

GEN. JACK KEANE (RET.), FOX NEWS CHANNEL SENIOR STRATEGIC ANALYST: Well, I think the evidence, I take it at face value, what we're getting from Poland and what we're getting from our own folks in the United States that it clearly wasn't accidental discharge of a missile by the Ukrainians.

I think -- listen, I understand Zelenskyy's frustration. I mean, on that day, close to 100 missiles were fired at his people. He's got millions of people without electricity. The Russians interfering with the distribution of water and sewage. We've got winter coming. And he's trying to protect his people. And he's frustrated. And I got that.

I think, whatever evidence we have, and I think the most powerful piece of evidence we have is the actual trajectory.

I mean, we have capabilities in the United States, global radar systems, and I think airplanes flying in the area with unclassified missions. As soon as a missile is fired, they pick up the trajectory of that. And what's revealing about it is not only where it's likely intended to go, but where it came from.

MACCALLUM: Right.

KEANE: And where it came from is real positive evidence.

MACCALLUM: Yes.

KEANE: Martha, and who was at that location.

MACCALLUM: Indeed.

KEANE: And that way, I think, would disabuse anybody of what's going on here.

MACCALLUM: I want to ask you quickly about a separate situation. Chris Wray, the FBI director said that China remains the biggest threat to the United States. And just an interesting sort of tense exchange between the Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and President Xi on the sidelines of the G20.

Watch this is about a half a minute, and I just love to get your thought on it on the other side. Let's watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

XI JINPING, PRESIDENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA (through translator): Everything we discussed has been leaked to the paper, that's not appropriate. And that's not the way the conversation was conducted.

If there is -- if there is sincerity on your part --

(CROSSTALK)

JUSTIN TRUDEAU, PRIME MINISTER OF CANADA: In Canada, we believe in free, and open, and frank dialogue, and that is what we will continue to have.

We will continue to look to work constructively together, but there will be things we will disagree on.

XI: Let's create the conditions first.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: Very interesting. Some -- they had a discussion. Some of it was leaked in the press and President Xi, obviously, very irritated, pushing back on Trudeau who says, look, you know, we have an open system for freedom of the press in our country.

What do you think about all that, Jack?

KEANE: Well, I think it's pretty rich, frankly. I enjoy the tension that Mr. Xi is facing there. I mean, he's used to such a closed society where he controls the entire narrative. And if anybody pushes back on a narrative, they usually wind up in jail.

So, he is coming at this completely different. And welcome to dealing with Democratic leaders, who themselves sometimes get frustrated on the leaks that they have, that the press is reporting on a regular basis to that population.

This is an open democracy. And he is dealing with it.

MACCALLUM: Yes.

KEANE: And I frankly, enjoy his frustration a little bit.

MACCALLUM: Yes. He is been in COVID lockdown for close to three years. Now, he's back in the -- in the mix. And that is one of the exchanges that he had when he -- when he came back to the G20.

Very, very interesting. General, always good to see you, sir. Thank you very much for being here.

KEANE: Yes, great talking to you, Martha.

MACCALLUM (voice over): So, this whole situation is like a movie. A group of 20 to 30-year olds, live in a house in the Bahamas, dating each other, running a multibillion-dollar crypto trading company and hedge fund.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

NUSEIR YASSIN, ISRAELI YOUTUBER: Sam is vegan. Sam sleeps five hours a night. Sam lives in the Bahamas with 10 roommates.

MACCALLUM: Wow. But now, the bankrupt mastermind behind it all is facing a lifetime in jail and an investigation on Capitol Hill led by Representative Patrick McHenry, who understands all of this, and has been digging into it. He is next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: It is an epic scandal and financial disaster that has a cast of characters that only Hollywood could dream up.

Once wunderkind and huge Democrat donor Sam Bankman-Fried, his one-time girlfriend and co-CFO, Stanford grad Caroline Ellison, in the middle there and the rest of the young then-billionaires who ran the crypto firm from their Bahamas love fest hideaway.

Ellison even tweeting about regular amphetamine use there. Fried says a hedge fund run by Ellison borrowed more of his investors' money, and then he realized.

Then, the thought -- then he thought that the fund of it, it had enough collateral to cover it. He owned that company as well, though. In messages with a Vox reporter the other night, Fried spilled his thoughts on what could likely be used as evidence against him, saying that losing all that money for his investors was "never the intention. Sometimes life creeps up on you."

Congressman Patrick McHenry has been following this very closely for a long time. We're going to get some answers from him about what their investigation will entail.

But first, if our business correspondent Kelly O'Grady live in Los Angeles. Hi, Kelly.

KELLY O'GRADY, FOX BUSINESS NETWORK CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Hi, Martha.

Yes. I mean, everyone is demanding answers, right? The victims, Washington, and indeed both the House and Senate announcing that there will be hearings next month to investigate this. And new information is coming out.

O'GRADY (voice over): A number of bombshells and a new court filing from the new FTX CEO, including the cryptocurrency was being deposited by customers that wasn't being reported on the balance sheet, and that it appears employees of FTX were using corporate funds to buy some of that personal real estate in the Bahamas, you referenced.

Now, I want to share a quote from that new FTX CEO John J. Ray. He's the same guy that was brought in to clean up Enron. He says, "Never in my career have I seen such a complete failure of corporate controls. The concentration of control in the hands of a very small group of inexperienced, unsophisticated, and potentially compromised individuals, this situation is unprecedented."

Now, that's important context to Sam Bankman-Fried's recent commentary. In that exchange with the Vox reporter you referenced, Martha, the former founder, once so outwardly welcoming a regulation, reportedly sharing, "F regulators, they make everything worse, they don't protect customers at all."

That's the sentiment Washington will surely disagree with in those hearings next month.

But my colleague, Hillary Vaughn caught up with Representative Loudermilk. He shared his thoughts on just how big the fallout could be.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. BARRY LOUDERMILK (R-GA): Oh, I think this is huge. I mean, you're looking at scandals to the level of Madoff. All right? I mean, this is -- this is something that could be highly criminal activity.

O'GRADY: Now, Bankman-Fried is still in the Bahamas. But discussion between the Bahamian and U.S. authorities to extradite him back to the states for questioning is ongoing. But like you said, Martha, seems like a movie. It's writing itself.

MACCALLUM: It's quite something.

MACCALLUM (on camera): Kelly, thank you very much.

With that, we bring in North Carolina Congressman Patrick McHenry, the top Republican on the Financial Services Committee, which is holding a hearing on the FTX collapse next month.

Congressman, great to have you with us. Who do you expect to testify at this hearing, first of all?

REP. PATRICK MCHENRY (R-NC): We're working through that. And that's obviously a significant amount of efforts being put in there to get to the bottom of what happens, and to get the proper people here to expose the reason why this type of stuff was able to occur.

We know right now, just what you've reported, and a good bit more via those folks that are trying to throw their own devices, figure out how FTX and Alameda Research defrauded folks to the upwards of over \$10 billion at this point.

But it's important for Congress to get to the bottom of this so that we can then respond to make sure that consumers are protected. And innovation can still occur in digital assets.

MACCALLUM: Yes. I just want to play actually, let's control room do these back to back, just to give people a sense of the people who are involved in this.

First, this is Sam Bankman-Fried. And then, after that, you'll hear from Caroline Ellison. Let's watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SAM BANKMAN-FRIED, FORMER CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, FTX: That's when I certainly think you start to look at things that were sort of worse than just like, yes, there is a change in monetary policy, change in investor sentiment.

Like, those are the types of things where there was probably artificial mechanisms, sort of that were, you know, creating these flywheel -- wheels, driving up with nothing fundamental backing it. And then, the flywheel starts to falter, and the whole thing crashes back down.

CAROLINE ELLISON, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, ALAMEDA RESEARCH: There are a lot of people who are like very smart, but aren't good at necessarily the very, like messy world of trading, especially crypto trading.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Yes.

ELLISON: You never -- yes, you never have all the information. So, you kind of just have to make your best guess based on what you can see.

I'm trying to think of a good example of a trade where I've lost a ton of money.

Well, I don't know, I probably don't want to go into specifics too much with that.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: Yes, I can't think of one. I don't want to go into too many specifics there. She says with people's hard-earned savings.

Now, you know, it's buyer beware to some extent, but there is also an expectation of good business practices. And then your -- you raise the question about where were the regulators? You heard what he said about regulators. But -- and he's been a huge donor to some Republicans and a lot of Democrats.

So, the question is, was he sort of coaxing people into leaving him alone regulation wise with these donations? It's a legitimate question.

MCHENRY: Well, first, they chose as their headquarters, the Bahamas. And the reason why they were not here in the United States is because we don't have clear rules of the road for the definition of a digital asset and a means of exchange.

You know, if you have, for instance, your Fidelity or Vanguard account, that your assets are protected. We don't have that same level of protection for digital assets because Gary Gensler and the Securities Exchange Commission run by this administration has made a willful decision to keep them separate from the investor protection regime that we have for both commodities and for securities.

So, it is the malfeasance of regulators, either through active bad decisions or a willful -- unwillingness to not address the faults and failures and potential consumer harm.

And so, we're going to get to the bottom of why this happened. But it -- the first blush here, it's very clear to me they chose to be headquartered in a light touch regulatory regime.

MACCALLUM: Yes.

MCHENRY: Because the United States didn't even have a regulatory regime for digital assets and for this innovation.

MACCALLUM: Well, I would imagine that this young man is a flight risk. And there are discussions going on between the United States and the Bahamas, so we'll see where this goes. Congressman McHenry, thank you very much. We'll follow that with great interest. Thank you, sir.

MCHENRY: Thank you.

MACCALLUM: So this is where the current balance of power stands in the House right now, Republicans will take the majority, but by what margin remains to be seen. It could pick up -- Republicans could pick up a few more seats here based on what's out there right now. We're getting a glimpse into what their priorities might be and what probes they may undertake.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. JAMES COMER (R-KY): Whistleblowers described President Biden as chairman of the board for these businesses. He personally participated in meetings and phone calls. Documents show that he was a partner with access to an office. To be clear, Joe Biden is the big guy.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: Oversight Committee Republican Congressman Byron Donalds after this

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: So now that they're officially taking control of the House, Republicans have new power to investigate President Biden and his son Hunter's business dealings, but they got a head start and they are revealing some of what they say they have already uncovered.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

COMER: This isn't an investigation of Joe Biden, the president of United States and why he lied to the American people about his knowledge and participation in his family's international business schemes.

To be clear, Joe Biden is the big guy. This evidence raises troubling questions about whether President Biden is a national security risk and about whether he is compromised by foreign governments.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: With that we bring in a member of the House Oversight Committee that will run this investigation into Hunter Biden, and as Representative Comer says, they have a lot of questions about the President as well. Joining me now, Florida Republican Congressman Byron Donalds. Congressman, good to have you with us today.

So tell us -- we know -- this is very quick, obviously, to come before the cameras and say this is going to be our focus. How big a priority is this and how strong do you believe the evidence is in order to put the time and energy into this effort?

REP. BYRON DONALDS (R-FI): Well, two things. Number one, we think the time is definitely appropriate. We told voters across the country that Republicans mean business. We were going to get down to it, whether it's policy driven about inflation, our border and the things that need to happen for our country economically, but then also with oversight and investigations. And the press conference today demonstrates that.

We have received information from whistleblowers. We've received information in the two suspicious activity reports about what Hunter Biden's financial dealings are, which really opened up the way to actually drive more investigations. Unlike the Democrats, we're not -- we don't have a goal in mind, and then we're just going to prosecute and find different ways to get there. We're going to let the evidence and the details dictate where this go.

But one thing is crystal clear. Joe Biden is the big guy, and we know that Hunter Biden has been involved in so many schemes around the globe. And so this is definitely an investigation about Joe Biden, and what he has been doing to allow this game to develop, and we're going to let the evidence speak for itself.

MACCALLUM: So just put the email up 10 for the big guy. This was an email that was sent in '17, when the now president was vice president of the United States toward the end of that term, James Gilliar and people involved in the email say that President Biden was the person who was going to get that money in these deals that were done with a Chinese technology firm.

And you have this back and forth today about whether or not the FBI was aware of this or whether people in the FBI said, you know, we're going to pass on this. We don't want to be involved in this Hunter Biden investigation. This is with Ron Johnson. Watch this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. RON JOHNSON (R-WI): Have you read Senator Grassley and my report on Hunter Biden's corruption issued in September of 2020 and November of 2020? Have you read those reports?

CHRISTOPHER WRAY, DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION: I have had a chance to look at it.

JOHNSON: Do you see any sign of Russian disinformation in those reports?

WRAY: That would be a hard question for me to answer.

JOHNSON: No, it's very easy. It's very easy.

WRAY: What I would say to you --

JOHNSON: It's very easy answered. There is no Russian disinformation.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: So they've received whistleblower reports from people inside the FBI. Senator Johnson. Final thought on that, Representative Donalds.

DONALDS: Look, what I think is very clear, there are serious issues about what Joe Biden and his son, and his brother for that matter have been doing. We're going to investigate. We're going to go through this with full transparency for the American people. And when we're done making our case, we think these facts will speak for themselves, and then we'll go from there,

MACCALLUM: Representative Byron Donalds of Florida, congratulations on your reelection. And it's great to have you with us on THE STORY today. Hope you'll come back soon, sir.

DONALDS: Of course, anytime.

MACCALLUM: So on the new episode of "The Untold Story" podcast, I spoke today with former US Attorney Brett Tolman, who prosecuted numerous white collar crime cases and we spoke about the FTX scandal and also the new Hunter Biden investigation heating up on The Hill from newly empowered Republican members.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BRETT TOLMAN, FORMER US ATTORNEY: When you see those rare glimpses of Hunter kind of losing it and getting upset at having, you know, provided the family so much income, and he outlines what he's been doing. You really start to question whether or not this is a corrupt family.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: We had a really fascinating discussion. You can download that podcast. It's available now at foxnewspodcast.com.

And as we've said, big changes are coming to Capitol Hill as Republicans pledged majority in the House of Representatives and Speaker Nancy Pelosi's reigned as House Democratic leader nears an end after two decades. Dana Perino on these huge changes from the Patriot awards after this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I, Nancy Pelosi.

REP. NANCY PELOSI (D-CA), SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE: I, Nancy Pelosi.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Do solemnly swear.

PELOSI: Do solemnly swear.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: That I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States.

PELOSI: That I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Against all enemies domestic and foreign.

PELOSI: Against all enemies

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: Well, truly historic day on Capitol Hill today just hours after Republicans gained control of the House. Speaker Nancy Pelosi announced that she "will not stay on for another term" as a leader in her party. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

PELOSI: And with great confidence in our caucus, I will not seek reelection to Democratic in the next Congress. For me, the hours come for a new generation to lead the Democratic Caucus that I so deeply respect.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: With that let's bring in one of our favorite people, Dana Perino, "America's Newsroom" co-anchor and co-host of "The Five." She's in Florida, in Hollywood, Florida for tonight's Patriots Awards, which we're all looking forward to, Dana, on Fox Nation.

You know, it was very interesting watching her lead up to this, in this speech today, in this statement and talk about her long history there. And regardless of whether you agree with Nancy Pelosi on politics, she is a person who's had a huge impact in Washington, and it was a big moment.

DANA PERINO, FOX NEWS ANCHOR: She was a consequential leader, right. And it is interesting, I knew her as the minority leader, and then the speaker when I was White House press secretary. But because after that 2006 midterm when they took the majority, and I'll never forget when President George W. Bush, in that state of the union, said and now I have the distinct pleasure of being the first president of the United States to say, Madam Speaker. And there was that moment of history.

And she was one of six children. She was born in 1940. He was the only daughter. Her father was a longtime Democratic congressman, and then the mayor of Baltimore. Her brother was also the mayor of Baltimore. There's a long line of public service in her family, but she certainly had a significant impact.

And I think, most notably, I would imagine, if you're a Democrat, they really believe that the Affordable Care Act or Obamacare would never have come to pass if not for her leadership on the Democratic side in the House.

MACCALLUM: Yes, absolutely. Well put. I remember that moment as well. This is Chuck Schumer asked about what happens now. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Has she made clear to you who she'd like to see succeed her?

SEN. CHUCK SCHUMER (D-NY): I'm not getting into that?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: But has she told you that?

SCHUMER: I'm not getting into that.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: I'm not getting into that. But she did say she wanted a new generation of leaders. And it made me think when I was watching it, Dana, I wonder if she is the first have that kind of rollover of some of these individuals have been around a long time. I just want to talk about new leadership, but not clear if some of those folks are ready to do what she did today.

PERINO: I think that you're onto something, of course. Remember Steny Hoyer, also it was her leadership. He decided to not seek another leadership position. He's also I think, in his 80s. So -- And last night, she sat with the youngest member ever to be elected to Congress as our first generation Z, congressman, that we come into office. And I think she knows that the Democratic Party is hungry for a generational change. And she decided to leave that too.

MACCALLUM: Dana, thank you so much. Great to have you with us. I know you guys are very busy down there. We're looking forward to tonight.

PERINO: It's fine, yes.

MACCALLUM: We'll be watching. Yes, we'll be watching it all.

PERINO: Thank you.

MACCALLUM: Thank you so much.

PERINO: OK.

MACCALLUM: So coming up, tragically, American students slipped even further behind other countries during the COVID school lock downs, but there were places that stayed open and bucked that trend and had different results. Who they were and how they did it when Pete Hegseth joins us live from the Patriot Awards next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: "In case you missed it, American education is in freefall," that for the New York Post about the historic slide that was already underway and scores of American students but got really worse. During the COVID School lockdown students tried to focus during Zoom classes, but there's a bright spot in all of this. And it is the numbers that may show us a way forward.

Lessons learned from how the Catholic schools handled the very difficult times during the pandemic. It was rough on all schools. But look at the numbers from the Nation's Report Card. Eighth grade Catholic school students improved their reading scores from 2019 to 2022. Public school students fell by three points. And the Catholic school saw a smaller drop in math compared to the public school students.

Pete Hegseth standing by on more of this. He's written a book on education. But first to Tommy Schultz, author of the New York Post Editorial that got a ton of attention and the CEO of the American Federation for Children. Tommy, great to have you with us.

One of the things that is striking is, a, the decision of Catholic schools to stay open and to provide a place for their students to come in throughout the pandemic. And they did not suffer higher rates of COVID disease because of that decision. But they also were able to serve students better and cheaper, right?

TOMMY SCHULTZ, CEO, AMERICAN FEDERATION FOR CHILDREN: That's right. Thanks for having me, Martha. Look, we knew the foundations of our K-12 system were cracked. But clearly as this data shows, it was sitting on a sinkhole. And what we saw over the last two years was essentially we knocked out 20 years of academic gains with our public school students. We've been essentially flushing trillions of dollars down the drain. And yet, Catholic school students actually increase their learning gains in reading, didn't lose ground in math generally. Whereas public schools, multi-decade losses.

So for looking at the Catholic school system, if it were a state in this country, it'd be the highest performing state in the nation. Catholic School students are either one-and-a-half to two years ahead of students in public schools. And like you said about the cost, here's what's wild. Catholic school tuition is roughly \$5,800. Well, our public school spending is roughly \$16,000 per student. So what's the solution? Martha's school choice policies, right?

Let families control their child's education funding, fund the students not the system. So parents can actually choose to send their students to a school that is open and one that is responsive to their needs of the parents. And the data just kind of showed that with Catholic schools and even October 2020, a few months after the breakout of the pandemic, 90% of Catholic schools were open.

The 10% that were closed was because the government forced them to close like in places like California, whereas only 43% of public school students actually had access to in-person learning. So huge difference, big trends but ultimately the solution is school choice. That's the way that we're going to get out ahead of this in the years to come it's the way that we can actually take back our schools, take back our country.

MACCALLUM: Yes. It's fascinating because these schools, many of them were suffering from enrollment problems. Now they are in the opposite situation. And they have kids who are of all different faiths, they're very diverse schools, and they're effective for much less money than is going to the public school. So go figure.

Tommy, thank you very much. Good to have you here today.

SCHULTZ: Thanks for having me.

MACCALLUM: I encourage everybody to go to the New York Post and read his piece.

So "Fox and Friends Weekend" co-host Pete Hegseth joining me now, author of the "Battle for the American Mind: Uprooting a Century of Miseducation." He's live in Hollywood, Florida where he's hosting the fourth annual Patriot Awards tonight at 7:00 PM Eastern on Fox Nation. It's like the Oscars, you know, gets big stars to be the host. And you are our big star, Pete, who does a fantastic job with tonight.

PETE HEGSETH, FOX NEWS HOST: Well, not that totally. Well, thank you, Martha. We are excited. It is -- you're right. This is my favorite assignment. And the cool part is there will be lots of stars in the house. But the stars are the men and women who will be on that stage receiving awards for things they never thought they would get an award for. And they never be on the spotlight for.

And, you know, what we celebrate and what we honor in any society is a reflection of what we value. And at the Patriot awards, we valued the service and the sacrifice and the hard work of our vets, and cops, and first responders, and medics, and all the people out there who fight and protect us.

This is their night. The award show America deserves, the Patriot Awards. I'm so excited. I could have commented on the education stuff, and I could do that all day long. But this is just three hours from now on this stage. The future for our kids and grandkids is what we what we highlight. And we're going to highlight the right stuff tonight.

MACCALLUM: So, I do want you to look back and comment on that. Because obviously, you know, there are great heroes in our education system as well. They are up against an enormous challenge when their

main goal is to actually teach our students the things that they need to know how to read, how to do math, how to do science, how to approach all of these things.

And the struggle is immense. And kids have been put in situations where they're, you know, being taught other stuff that isn't really going to serve them that well and doesn't allow them to even read at grade level.

HEGSETH: Well said. And I agree with what your previous guests said, Tommy. I mean, ultimately, parents should have the choice to choose the best system for their kids, because unions have covered, have totally captured the government school system. Not only are they not delivering the basics, like you laid out, reading, writing, math, but they're layering on top of it is social justice agenda intended at this point to indoctrinate our kids in government and public schools.

So parents need to have the maximum choice to go to either a Catholic school, as you just highlighted, a classical Christian school, another private school, preferably that, you know, has God in the hallway. So there's purpose and depth to the human story and human condition. In those facilities, that's how you set kids up to be productive future citizens and free thinkers, which is what we need in a free society in a republic free thinkers who are not fooled by poor arguments. Instead, our kids are captured and locked down in government schools.

The silver lining of COVID was the revelation of this. And now it's time to give more choices to more parents across America.

MACCALLUM: Yes. You know, I was with a Medal of Honor winner the other night who talked about how the biggest thing that we can do to instill a stronger future for the country is to make sure that children are well- educated and that they understand their history. And I'm sitting here thinking that one of the things that parents can do tonight is to make sure that their kids are watching the Patriot Awards. Because they're going to learn about what makes the country strong, and a little bit about the past as well, right?

HEGSETH: It is a family-friendly event. So yes, line the kids up in front of Fox Nation at 7:00 PM. Part of the reason I joined the military in the first place, I wasn't from a military family, is because my parents took me to the Fourth of July parades and the Memorial Day parades, the Veterans Day parades. And I saw through civic ritual what communities valued. And I thought, man, someday I'd like to do something like that, seems important.

And I think that's the same idea of the Patriot Awards. Watch this, watch a border patrol agent get up on stage, and a cop get up on stage, and a vet get up on stage. Here how not only did they serve every single day, but they went above and beyond, and that deserves to be recognized. And then we're going to have a few surprises tonight too, some fun stuff. I don't think there'll be a dry eye in the place.

And you have to tune in and check in at 7:00. But this is what we do. We have to teach kids to love their country, and then reinforce it every way we can.

MACCALLUM: Well, and these are their great stories and exposing them to them, I think will foster have that in their hearts as well as it did for you. Pete, thank you very much.

HEGSETH: Absolutely.

MACCALLUM: Always great to see.

HEGSETH: Thank you, Martha.

MACCALLUM: Have a great night tonight. We'll be watching.

So that's THE STORY of November the 17th but THE STORY goes on. Make sure you watch the Patriot Awards tonight. Thanks for joining me. I look forward to having you back tomorrow. See you at 3:00.

END

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SE News; International

HD **Hospitals Overwhelmed; Twitter Deadline; Border Battle; Federal Charges in FTX Collapse?; Nancy Pelosi to Step Down From Leadership; Interview With Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-IL); Interview With Rep. Nancy Mace (R-SC)**

BY Sandra Smith, Susan Li, Molly Line, Hillary Vaughn, Charlie Gasparino, Aishah Hasnie, Shannon Bream, Chad Pergram

WC 8,239 words

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SC CAVU

LA English

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LP

SANDRA SMITH, FOX NEWS HOST: Two-party rule is back, Republicans capturing the House, as House Speaker Nancy Pelosi announces she is stepping down from her leadership position.

Will these newfound checks and balances keep the spending in check, as Americans continue to deal with sky-high inflation?

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We are going to discuss it with two House members, South Carolina Republican Congresswoman Nancy Mace and Illinois Democrat Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi.

Welcome, everyone. I'm Sandra Smith, in for Neil Cavuto, and this is "Your World."

First we go to Chad Pergram. He's live on Capitol Hill, where it all went down today.

Chad, big day. What do we know about what's going to happen going forward?

CHAD PERGRAM, FOX NEWS CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENT: Sandra, good afternoon.

A sea change on Capitol Hill. Nancy Pelosi is stepping down from the leadership. But Pelosi will continue to represent San Francisco. Pelosi is the daughter of late Representative Tommy D'Alesandro of Baltimore. Pelosi delivered an emotional speech on the House floor.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. NANCY PELOSI (D-CA): Scripture teaches us that, for everything, there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven.

I will not seek reelection to Democratic leadership in the next Congress.

For me, the hour has come for a new generation to lead the Democratic Caucus that I so deeply respect.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PERGRAM: Also leaving the leadership, Majority Leader Steny Hoyer. Pelosi and Hoyer have led House Democrats for two decades.

But they are rivals. They interned together in the office of Maryland Senator Daniel Brewster in the 1960s.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. STENY HOYER (D-MD): Because I think it's time for new leadership. I think we have excellent opportunities. Very frankly, I think I could be elected. That was not the issue.

But I think it's time. You might not have heard, I'm 83.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PERGRAM: Both aboard as rank-and-file members.

Former Speaker Dennis Hastert remained a member for one year after the GOP lost the majority in 2006. The focus now is on Democratic Caucus Chairman Hakeem Jeffries to become a minority leader. With Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, the borough of Brooklyn could feature both Democratic leaders in the House and Senate.

Also today, Republicans announced their investigations into President Biden.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. JAMES COMER (R-KY): Joe Biden is the big guy. This evidence raises troubling questions about whether President Biden is a national security risk and about whether he is compromised by foreign governments, despite the president's claim that he wasn't involved in Biden family business schemes.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PERGRAM: The GOP will also probe the border crisis and the withdrawal from Afghanistan -- Sandra.

SMITH: Chad Pergram on the Hill for us.

Chad, thank you.

So, with Republicans holding a slim majority in the House, what would our next guests like to see at the top of the agenda?

With us now, South Carolina Republican Congresswoman Nancy Mace.

Congresswoman, welcome to you. Glad to have you here.

So, we all wonder what this new Congress will look like. Where do your priorities fall?

REP. NANCY MACE (R-SC): Well, you look at the election a week ago, we have a -- there's a very slim majority in the Senate with Democrats, and in the House, likewise, there will be a very slim majority in our majority in the House.

And I believe it's a mandate for us to work together. And I'm a fiscal conservative who, in my first term in Congress, I passed over 20 bills out of committee. I consistently reached across the aisle to work for my constituents, my state, and my nation.

And that is the mandate that Americans are asking of us today. With slim majorities like this, we must work together if we want to get any progress and move the ball forward, whether it's economic issues, like inflation and jobs and the supply chain, educational issues.

I know that Raja, who's going to be on the program this afternoon, that his -- he's got -- he's very passionate about vocational training and education. That's a place where we have some agreement. Cybersecurity is another area where I have been very successful in working with members across the aisle.

And it's my hope that we're going to continue to do that when we start the next session in January.

SMITH: What do you say to a viewer who sees what you're saying, hears what you're saying, likes what you're saying, but thinks, come on, that's fantasyland?

After what we have all lived through the past few years, do you really believe that the two sides, with this slim majority, that you can work together to get things done?

MACE: Well, I think it'll be -- it'll be very difficult, there's no doubt.

Partisanship has reigned over the last couple of years. Divisiveness has been the name of the game. It's all about adding to your Twitter followers and competing for how much money you can raise online.

But there are Republicans and there are Democrats who are willing to work to work together. I have done that over the last two years, and I want to increase and improve that kind of work and reach across the aisle. I'm not going to turn my backs on South Carolina, South Carolinians or our country just because somebody has an R or a D by their name.

And there's not going to be a lot that we agree on. But, where we do, if we want to get anything to the president's desk to be signed into law in the next two years, it's going to require us to work together, to negotiate, build consensus, and maybe make some concessions.

SMITH: Yes.

MACE: That's going to have to be a requirement of this job over the next two years. If Republicans want to be successful, that's what we have to do.

SMITH: OK, so we're all still seeing those high prices at the grocery and the gas pump. And you just referenced our next guest coming up from the other side of the aisle.

MACE: Mm-hmm.

SMITH: So, give us an example.

How could you work across the aisle with Democrats to try to bring those prices down, considering this was one of the biggest issues in the midterm elections?

MACE: Well, the supply chain, that's an area that I believe that we can work together on. It's across both sides of the country, East Coast to West Coast, looking at cybersecurity too. Those issues have been very important.

Look at Colonial Pipeline. They were hacked two summers ago. And that's when gas prices in the Southeast, at least, started to go up. And they never came back down. And so I think that there are a number of areas. And we're going to be looking to finding those ways of working together. I will have a gavel on Oversight and be a subcommittee chairman.

And it's really going to be up to us who are in those leadership positions to find a way to work together, no matter what committee we're on. And I promised to do that when I got reelected, and I'm going to -- I'm going to keep that promise.

SMITH: OK, really good to have you on here today, Congresswoman. Thank you for your time.

MACE: Thank you.

SMITH: And she set things up nicely, because we're going to head to the other side of the aisle now, Illinois Democratic Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi joining us now.

Congressman, thank you very much. Great to get your take on things, especially after hearing from the congresswoman.

What impact do you think this split government will have on the president's agenda?

REP. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHI (D-IL): Well, it's great to follow Nancy. And Nancy and I work together on different issues, including work force development and vocational education.

But I think it boils down to this, Sandra, which is, do we allow divided government to become gridlock, or does it become a moment where we can come together and get things done?

I would like to think that we can focus on the latter. And, if we do that, we're going to achieve great things for our constituents.

SMITH: You know, time and time again, in the polling leading up to midterm elections, when voters were asked, to what do they attribute -- or to what do they blame for these sky-high prices, inflation, and, so often, the number one answer was government spending.

And most economists do agree that that big government spending did get us to where we are. So, do you think Democrats can find some common ground with Republicans to rein in that spending, so that we don't end up here again?

KRISHNAMOORTHI: You know, I definitely think government spending on things like prescription drugs and so forth contributes to the issue.

But so does, as Nancy alluded to, supply chain disruptions, of course, the Ukraine war, and other factors. We have to work on all three or four of those factors together. And I think, if we do -- and I know that you're from Illinois, in Chicago. If we work in a Midwest way and be practical about this, then we can actually get those prices down and let consumers enjoy more of their dollars.

SMITH: Practical, I think, is a word a lot of people find comfort in.

If it were to actually happen, seeing the two sides work together to especially bring down inflation, OK, we are a week out from Thanksgiving. I can't even believe it, Congressman, but this is happening. And as you well know, prices are up across the board at the grocery store.

KRISHNAMOORTHY: Yes.

SMITH: To put that meal on your family table this year, it's going to cost quite a bit more. And a lot of what goes into those high prices at the grocery is the transportation costs, companies having to pay for that diesel and gasoline just to move these goods around.

KRISHNAMOORTHY: Yes. Yes.

SMITH: What can you commit to? How could you say to Republicans that you're willing to bring those gas prices down, when, oftentimes, what we have seen, the solution from this White House is to tap the Supporter or this sort of blame game that we have seen?

How do you want to bring prices down?

KRISHNAMOORTHY: You know, I was just talking about this with Hakeem Jeffries, who, by the way, will potentially make an excellent leader of our caucus in the future.

I think that we have to invoke the Defense Production Act, Sandra, with regard to increasing refining capacity. As you might know, global refining capacity and American refining capacity for converting crude oil into gasoline is one million barrels per day short.

And so increasing that refining capacity using the Defense Production Act would help us to convert more crude into gasoline, thereby lowering prices at the pump. It's a bipartisan issue. We can work on it together.

And, if we do this, again, people will pay less at the pump.

SMITH: Now, I want to hit on Hakeem Jeffries in just a second, because that's an interesting point about leadership. And I'd love to pick your brain on that.

KRISHNAMOORTHY: Sure.

SMITH: But, first, you do realize that most of those refineries had to come offline not just because of the pandemic, but then they were told that the goal was zero fossil fuel use by this administration.

So they sort of were looking into the future and saying, we might not be needed. They were essentially told to shut down some of that capacity. So, what messaging are you going to put out there, that this is not an administration that wants to bring us to the end of fossil fuel use?

KRISHNAMOORTHY: Well, actually, with the Inflation Reduction Act, it actually provides incentives for, for instance, more oil and gas drilling, where there's more solar and wind permits that are granted on federal lands.

Similarly, we have to be very practical right now, Sandra. With regard to refining capacity, for whatever reason, whether it was weather-related or a business decision by those oil and gas companies, we need to increase that refining capacity right now.

SMITH: OK. Really interesting response there.

OK, Hakeem Jeffries, so you're throwing the full weight of your support behind his potential leadership of your party in the House, big shoes to fill for Nancy Pelosi. Is that your choice?

KRISHNAMOORTHY: Yes.

Hakeem has the intelligence, he has the work ethic, and he has the empathy to bring people together. We're too divided as a country. We need leaders who can bring people together and get things done. And that's what Hakeem Jeffries represents to me. And I'm really excited if he decides to announce his candidacy.

SMITH: Got it.

Congressman, I appreciate you joining us. Thank you.

KRISHNAMOORTHY: Thank you.

SMITH: So what does this newfound congressional potential gridlock mean, as newly elected members of Congress arrive on the scene? Will we see action spending, inflation, as we just discussed, crime and other issues that voters say they are very concerned about?

With us now, anchor of "FOX News Sunday," Shannon Bream.

There's a lot of people who think that that sort of gridlock in Washington isn't such a bad thing, especially the markets, Shannon.

SHANNON BREAM, HOST, "FOX NEWS SUNDAY": Yes.

And you would know on that. You're the expert. But I can tell you, on the polls as well, they are not good for Congress ever. I mean, they're in the teens. They rank below just about everything else in this country about how people feel they're getting a job done or not getting it done.

And Republicans have taken a lot of heat for being the party of no. This president has said, they can't tell you what they're for. All they're going to do is vote against my stuff and my agenda. And Republicans are kind of taking that as a badge of honor, many of them here in Washington stepping up and saying, great, we are the party of no, there will be not trillions more in packages of federal spending.

So they may wear that as a badge of honor for a couple of years, although they're being cautioned by people like Senator Mitt Romney, of course, a Republican, saying, work on trying to get some things done, don't have all these crazy hearings.

But you talk to the House and these folks say, people elected me to hold hearings on Hunter Biden, on the border, on the withdrawal from Afghanistan. And they say they're going to focus on that because they know there's a limit to what they can get done legislatively.

SMITH: Really interesting, Shannon.

My initial comment about the markets is, the markets see this as potential for Washington to get more done. You have got gridlock. You have got the forcing of the two parties to work across the aisle. But as far as the priorities are concerned, you have got inflation top of the list. We just had a big discussion that.

But what about crime? What about the border? What are we hearing about all those major issues for Americans?

BREAM: I think the border will get a ton of focus. There are those within the Republican Party now that they control the House and well before they did who are saying, it is time to call these leaders in -- some of them have been there -- to account for what's going on at the border.

The numbers are historic. They're astronomical. Democrats and Republicans who are down in that region agree this is an SOS. They are begging this administration for help. But there are some, like I said, in the Republican Party who have been saying, we are going to impeach DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas. It is a priority for some of them.

We will see if leadership goes along with that. But, if nothing else, they're going to have hearings about how this thing has become so porous. And you can't have leaders from either party ever standing up in the -- in recent years and say, the border is secure. Nobody buys it. They see the actual reality.

We have amazing crews who are down there working around the clock 365 days a year with their drone coverage and their on-the-ground coverage. They see it. And you can't tell people not to believe they're lying eyes, on that issue, especially.

SMITH: Shannon, with the 30 or so seconds that we have left, what about the investigations?

I mean, we have seen some of these newly elected members of Congress, Republicans, who have pushed back on the idea that they're going to get tied up with those investigations. They say voters brought them in for these issues, and they don't necessarily want to focus on that.

What do you think we will see?

BREAM: I think the Republicans will say, we can do a little bit of both.

And I think that you're going to, if you don't want to have the hearings, have to go stop at the office of Congressman Jim Jordan, because he's already teed up exactly what he wants to go after. And he is determined that that's also what voters wanted from him and from the Republicans. They will have to do multitasking over there on the Hill.

SMITH: Really interesting.

And coming up, "FOX News Sunday" this weekend. Shannon, we will be looking forward to that.

BREAM: I will see you on Sunday.

SMITH: OK, excellent. We will look forward to it. Thanks, Shannon.

In the fallout from the FTX collapse, are federal charges next? What our Charlie Gasparino is hearing.

And senators demanding answers as the border surge rages on. What the administration is now saying -- next.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. KYRSTEN SINEMA (D-AZ): The administration's continued failures on the border places Arizona communities and our nation's security at risk.

SEN. ROB PORTMAN (R-OH): We can't fix the problem unless we acknowledge it.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

PORTMAN: Is the Southern border currently in crisis, yes or no?

ALEJANDRO MAYORKAS, U.S. SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY: We are seeing a significant challenge at the Southern border.

PORTMAN: We can't fix the problem unless we acknowledge it.

SEN. MAGGIE HASSAN (D-NH): The flow of drugs across the Southwest border is unrelenting.

SEN. JAMES LANKFORD (R-OK): What percentage of the individuals that are encountered at our Southern border do we know their criminal history?

MAYORKAS: I will have to get back to you on that, Senator, whether we have the capability of identifying the percentage, which is what you have...

LANKFORD: It is my understanding that we don't know.

SINEMA: The administration's continued failures on the border places Arizona communities and our nation's security at risk.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SMITH: So that is a bit of what we heard from Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas. He was back in the hot seat over the border.

The Senate grilling comes as Title 42, which allowed for the rapid removal of migrants at the border, is set to end and just a few weeks.

FOX News' Aishah Hasnie is reporting on Capitol Hill. She's got more on this for us.

Hi, Aishah.

AISHAH HASNIE, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Hi there, Sandra.

You know what? Lawmakers on both sides of the aisle know that there is a problem at our Southern border. We heard it today in this hearing, in the Senate hearing, and there was great concern about what's going to happen once Title 42 has been lifted.

Today, Though, Secretary Mayorkas had no new plans or ideas for what the DHS is going to do once this policy is lifted. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

LANKFORD: What's the plan for dealing with this mass migration, illegal immigration coming now post-Title 42?

MAYORKAS: What we are doing is precisely what we announced we would do in April of this year. And we have indeed been executing on the plan.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HASNIE: So, as you heard there, Mayorkas is opting to stick with his six- part strategy that DHS unveiled in the spring to deal with the surge of migrants that is expected once this policy is lifted.

That has been extremely frustrating for Republicans, especially since data shows a record 2.38 million migrant encounters in just this last fiscal year. And I tried to ask Mayorkas about this when he left the hearing today.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HASNIE: Secretary, do you believe your plan is working at the Southern border? Six-part plan, do you think it's working?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HASNIE: Yes, so you hear there that he refused to answer those questions.

Meantime, Texas Governor Greg Abbott announcing this week that he is invoking the invasion clause of his state's constitution, with plans to build a border wall in Texas counties.

Abbott's also busing migrants to Philadelphia now, with the first bus arriving at the Amtrak station in that city Wednesday morning. Mayorkas has asked lawmakers to pass comprehensive immigration reform as part of a solution to the border crisis.

But there's really been no movement, Sandra, on the Hill on that. Instead, the Democrat-controlled Congress is actually prioritizing DACA in this lame-duck session. Of course, they're going to need 10 GOP votes to accomplish that if they really want to get that done. And now they know that border security, especially now that Title 42 is off the table, is going to have to be a part of those discussions moving forward -- Sandra.

SMITH: All right, Aishah Hasnie reporting on Capitol Hill for us, thank you.

Law enforcement on the border is bracing for an influx of migrants after Title 42 is lifted, including our next guest.

Cochise County, Arizona, Sheriff Mark Dannels joins us now.

Sheriff, thank you very much for your time. We know you're an extremely busy man and about to get a whole lot busier. What do you forecast this means, this ban now on Title 42 and it coming to an end? What does it mean for the border?

MARK DANNELS, COCHISE COUNTY, ARIZONA, SHERIFF: Well, Sandra, let me start off by saying thanks for having me.

Number two is what we have seen in the last 20 months in my 38-year career working this border right directly behind me is, we're in serious trouble. Right now, if you look at just the crime, the public safety crime based on an open border, we have booked over 1,300 people in my jail for state- related crimes that have a connection to this border.

We have had almost 500 victims of crimes related to the border in Cochise County, Arizona. This continues every day down here when it comes to what we're seeing. The removal of Title 42 opens up the floodgate, one less measure that protects my citizens in my county. And I have heard some of your guests say this. I will say it, and I will echo it too, is, this president, this administration, Secretary Mayorkas has failed to engage, recognize, acknowledge and act upon a border that is not secure.

SMITH: Well, perhaps you see it in as an admission then when he was asked walking down the hallways by our reporter whether or not his plan is working, he certainly did not answer yes.

I was taking notes there about the hearing. I mean, it's hard to believe that, when asked if this is a crisis, he does not admit it is one and only talks about challenges at the border. Then, when asked if it is secured, he seems to -- he seems to say yes.

How can you expect leadership to fix a problem they're not admitting is there?

DANNELS: And that's been the problem, though, Sandra, is, there's been no prioritization to do anything with this border, but open it up.

Secretary Mayorkas, shame on him and the fact that his agents are down here on the border working alongside my deputies, myself, our troopers, our law -- local law enforcement to do everything we can to keep our community, our state -- as Senator Sinema said, our -- my U.S. senator from Arizona here, we're all doing our part, as he turns his back on this community, this state, and this country.

SMITH: It is a lot for all of you to deal with. Border Patrol has its hands full.

I mean, the border alone in October, CBP numbers, 230,000 apprehended, 64,000 got-aways.

Sir, we thank you for your time,. Sheriff, thank you very much.

DANNELS: Thank you, Sandra. Thanks for having me.

SMITH: All right.

Well, the clock is ticking for Twitter employees, facing a 5:00 p.m. deadline to keep working for Elon Musk. We have the latest on that.

And a new push to get the founder of FTX back to the USA, as more calls on Capitol Hill are growing for answers.

Hillary Vaughn is following all of it -- Hillary.

HILLARY VAUGHN, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Hi, Sandra.

Well, FTX's founder, Sam Bankman-Fried, is finally speaking out uncensored. He has a special message for regulators. We will have what he has to say coming up.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

SMITH: It is red cup day at Starbucks. Well, a lot of employees there are seeing red, workers at more than 100 U.S. stores striking today, making a push to unionize, the strike coming on one of Starbucks' busiest days of the year.

We are back in 60 seconds.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

SMITH: All right, well, the lawsuits are starting up, and Congress could be ramping up the investigations and hearings over the collapse of the FTX crypto exchange.

To Hillary Vaughn on Capitol Hill. She's got the latest from there on that.

Hi, Hillary.

VAUGHN: Hi, Sandra.

Well, FTX's founder, Sam Bankman-Fried, is taking incoming from all sides. The FBI is in talks to possibly extradite him from the Bahamas and bring him to the U.S. Investors that got fleeced are suing him in a class action suit. Both Senate and House committees have announced hearings into FTX's fall from grace.

And Bankman-Fried is finally speaking out uncensored. In a direct message interview with Vox, Bankman-Fried unloaded his real thoughts on what went wrong, saying this -- quote -- "Eff regulators. They make everything worse. They don't protect customers at all."

Lawmakers disagree. The top Republican on the House Financial Services Committee telling me Congress has to crack down because regulators dropped the ball.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. PATRICK MCHENRY (R-NC): Well, after the meltdown of Enron, Congress took action to address the legal failures there and clarify our laws. I think we're at that same moment when it comes to centralized exchanges in the digital asset ecosystem.

The current regulators and this current administration is not doing anything to protect consumers, and, in fact, have made things worse.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

VAUGHN: Bankman-Fried went on to admit that he did make some mistakes, just not the ones you think, telling the reporter he regrets filing for Chapter 11 bankruptcy, saying -- quote -- "I effed up big multiple times. You know what was maybe my single biggest eff-up? Chapter 11."

Bankman-Fried also says his claim that FTX wouldn't invest with customer money was -- quote -- "factually accurate" because they technically just loaned cash to a different company founded by Bankman-Fried, Alameda Research, a trading firm. He says he thought they had the collateral to cover it.

But, Sandra, he says -- quote -- "Sometimes, life just creeps up on you. And that's kind of what happened here" -- Sandra.

SMITH: There have been so many bizarre twists and turns to this story.

Hillary Vaughn on that.

Hillary, thank you very much.

The chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Gary Gensler, is someone who Congress is eying for answers in how regulators missed the collapse of FTX.

Let's go to FOX Business' Charlie Gasparino on this fast-developing story.

Charlie, I was really looking forward to having you on this because, as I mentioned, a lot of bizarre twists and turns.

CHARLIE GASPARINO, FOX NEWS SENIOR CORRESPONDENT: Right.

SMITH: But there are a lot of victims and a lot of money involved. Where does this go next?

GASPARINO: I mean, it is an epic -- I hate to use the word fraud, because he hasn't been charged yet. But this is an epic F-up, so to speak, that has a lot of the earmarks of one of the biggest financial frauds ever.

SMITH: Yes.

GASPARINO: And its tentacles are just far-reaching. Venture capital firms, average people put their money in the wallets of his FTX crypto exchange that appear to be absconded with to make up for bad trades in his hedge fund.

There's regulators who were wooed by this guy over the last three years.

SMITH: Members of Congress, even.

GASPARINO: Members of Congress. He gave \$10 million to Joe Biden. He just -- a couple months ago, several months ago, March, he had a meeting with Gary Gensler to start a new crypto exchange with Brad Katsuyama of IEX, the Flash Boys practical protagonists. They were going to do something together.

He was looking for Gary Gensler's approval on that. He's populated his staff, his legal staff with people who worked for the Commodities Futures Trading Association, one of the regulators of crypto. This guy's tentacles were all over.

And now it's starting to look like it was one big Ponzi scheme, that he was literally -- he lost some money. All these Ponzi schemes begin the same way. Madoff did as well.

SMITH: You and I covered Madoff.

GASPARINO: They -- you lose a lot of money.

SMITH: Yes.

GASPARINO: Then you think you might be able to make it up by stealing money from someplace else. And then you just -- you just keep doubling down on the same bad bets. And it never ends well.

SMITH: You could also make the case they start to actually believe the money is there...

GASPARINO: Well, also...

SMITH: ... and that they will come up with it.

GASPARINO: They also believe, since they were so right in the past, of their own infallibility. And so you double down on that bet.

And that's what it looks like. I say looks like because we don't know. One of the interesting things is here is, like, how was he able to sell himself for so long?

SMITH: Thirty years old, both his parents Ivy League grads, born on the Stanford campus.

(CROSSTALK)

SMITH: But then he had this bizarre girlfriend who apparently was managing the math behind all this, who boasted about how she used, like, second grade math to do the finances.

GASPARINO: Right.

And he -- I don't think she was the main -- the main sales point. What he really did was he hoodwinked scores of journalists, scores of regulators, everybody.

SMITH: Gisele and Tom Brady.

GASPARINO: Gisele, because he had this veneer of wokeness, that he was a guy, a billionaire who was very ready to give back to the world.

And he used that effectively, used the media, used social media effectively to push that. And it helped build his sort of image as this great capitalist.

I miss capitalists that just want to make money, give money back to shareholders, employ people. Now we're in such a weird state in corporate America that you have to be woke and you have to like kneel for Black Lives Matter movement to be accepted.

And I tell you, he used that. That was one of his shticks. Every one of these guys, whether it's Elizabeth Holmes at Theranos, whether...

SMITH: You got a picture him laying around on the beanbag, and he sleeps five hours, and he's...

GASPARINO: And he talks all this all this woke mumbo-jumbo.

SMITH: But, by the way, these Democrats that received the money from him, the donations from him, you got to think about the hypocrisy of that.

I mean, this is a guy who he lived offshore. He lived in the Bahamas, right, a major tax haven, OK, the very thing that Democrats demonize almost daily.

GASPARINO: Right. Right.

SMITH: So, I mean, there's a lot...

GASPARINO: And, by the way, it was all of them.

Look who is right there. He was at this conference, holding court with Bill Clinton and Tony Blair. I mean, it's really amazing how he was able to use the veneer of doing the right thing, giving money to Democrats, embracing wokism.

SMITH: Do you think those Democrats need to give the money back?

GASPARINO: Here's what I would say. He invested money in certain businesses, particularly at the end. This should have been -- raised red flags.

The crypto market is imploding, and he's still investing. How does that happen, right? His own crypto, FTT, was not doing so well. So that happens. I want -- you got to ask yourself, did he take money out of the customer accounts and give it to those Democrats? If he did, they -- well, the bankruptcy trustee is probably going to make them give it back.

SMITH: Charlie, you did not disappoint. Love this conversation.

GASPARINO: I just.

SMITH: It's a huge story. And it could get much bigger, by the way. Yes.

GASPARINO: I have been covering this day on FOX Business. And, on FOXBusiness.com, we have been writing a lot.

SMITH: OK. All right, Charlie, thank you. We will go check that out. Appreciate it.

Coming up: Are Twitter employees about to fly the coop? Workers have until 5:00 p.m. to decide to stay with Elon Musk or leave his company.

And a new report finding massive COVID unemployment fraud in New York. More on the warnings that state officials were ignoring. That's next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

SMITH: A new report finding New York made at least \$11 billion in improper unemployment payments during the pandemic. But it also claims the exact amount of fraud is unknown due to Department of Labor officials refusing to provide the data.

Joining us now, National Taxpayers Union executive vice president Brandon Arnold.

Brandon, surely, you have got a lot to say about this. And this number could even be bigger than we know of, based on that, right?

BRANDON ARNOLD, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, NATIONAL TAXPAYER UNION: Yes, I think this is the tip of the iceberg.

Listen, we see \$11 billion in the state of New York. A similar report from California said \$11 billion there. Nationally, the Government Accountability Office says \$80 billion in unemployment insurance fraud, but that is only the start of it. There's private estimates that say this problem could be a \$400 billion problem.

It's an enormous problem. And yet the Department of Labor and other officials in this administration have put their head in the sand and have refused to answer questions from Congress.

SMITH: Brandon, we did receive a statement from the New York State Department of Labor.

And it reads in part -- quote -- "Our system acted as a critical lifeline for nearly five million New Yorkers. The New York State Department of Labor is already implementing changes to improve the system and address the audit's findings. We're stepping up our fraud investigations. And we have made data on U.I. benefits available on a new public dashboard."

Does that bring you any comfort, Brandon?

ARNOLD: I mean, that's the start of the problem -- I mean, the start of the solution.

But there's so much more to be done. The first problem is getting a full assessment of what's taken place. We know there are all sorts of bad actors out there who have set up fraudulent Web sites, who have stolen people's private information and filed unemployment insurance claims in their names.

But we don't know the extent of the problem, and we're not going to solve it until we know the full extent of the problem. There have been multiple bills introduced by Republicans on Capitol Hill to provide the investigatory tools that we need and the enforcement tools that we need. But they have been swept aside by House Democrats and Senate Democrats that.

They not gotten the attention that they need. And, hopefully, with the Republican House of Representatives, at least, we can start to shine a little bit of light on this massive, massive problem.

SMITH: Well, the statement they issued seems to be an admission that all of this happened.

Why do you think they're not providing the rest of the data, so we really know the extent, the full extent of this fraud?

ARNOLD: Yes, I mean, that's a great question. We have gotten stonewalled by so many different entities.

SMITH: Yes.

ARNOLD: Secretary Walsh at the Department of Labor, Merrick Garland at the Department of Justice, everybody seems to want to sweep this under the rug. It may be a bit of embarrassment because they have been hoodwinked by so many bad actors out there.

We don't know. But the first step is identifying the problem, because the effect right now, it's more than just lost revenue. What we're seeing in states, because they have these enormous shortfalls, they're starting to raise taxes on businesses, on small businesses during the brink of a recession.

SMITH: Yes.

ARNOLD: This is unconscionable.

SMITH: All right, we appreciate you coming on that, Brandon. And we're going to continue to follow it. Thank you.

ARNOLD: Thanks so much.

SMITH: Meantime, wait times at emergency rooms across the country are rising, and due to -- in part to COVID cases on the rise, as we approach the winter months.

FOX News correspondent Molly Line is in Boston. She's got more on this story.

A lot of parents want to know more about this, Molly.

MOLLY LINE, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Yes.

And, Sandra, there are a number of factors at play. And it's not just Boston. As you mentioned, emergency rooms all across the nation are under tremendous strain.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

LINE (voice-over): Janet Cook's (ph) recent visit to an emergency room at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston was in her words, horrible.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I was in excruciating pain, vomiting, unable to walk. I had hyperventilated.

LINE: Janet waited eight hours for a bed, languishing in a hallway with other patients. And her case isn't unusual.

Facing what's being dubbed the tridemic, a surge in COVID, along with cases of flu and RSV, a respiratory virus, hospitals across the nation are in crisis, E.R.s overwhelmed.

According to the American College of Emergency Physicians, the situation has been years in the making.

DR. AISHA TERRY, INCOMING PRESIDENT, AMERICAN COLLEGE OF EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS: It's just gotten to a breaking point, where we're seeing literally people dying in waiting rooms across the country because there is nowhere for them to go outside of the waiting room.

LINE: The technical term for this medical purgatory is boarding. And a recent ACEP survey underscores the system overload.

TERRY: We found that 97 percent of emergency physicians say that the boarding of their patients lasts for at least 24 hours. And about a third of those who did that survey said that it can be up to a week.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

LINE: Dr. Terry says the situation is so dire that her organization sent a letter to the Biden administration urging federal intervention. -- Sandra.

SMITH: Heartbreaking for so many of those families.

Molly, thank you.

Time is running out for Twitter workers, meanwhile. They have until 5:00 Eastern time tonight to decide if they're going to stay working for Elon Musk or leave the company. Up-to-the-minute details next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

SMITH: More trouble, see what I did there, for those hoping to see Taylor Swift's upcoming tour.

Ticketmaster canceling the general public ticket sale originally set for tomorrow, citing high demand and low inventory. The company already facing backlash after a chaotic presale earlier this week.

And, meantime, it's almost time for Twitter workers to decide, are you in or are you out with Elon Musk, running up against a 5:00 p.m. deadline to stay with the company.

Susan Li joins us now. She's got the latest on that for us.

Hello, Susan.

SUSAN LI, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: That's right, Sandra.

So, Twitter workers have a few more minutes to sign up for hardcore or they can leave. In a company wide e-mail, Musk writing, "To build a breakthrough Twitter 2.0, we will need to be extremely hardcore," adding that, "If you're sure that you want to be part of the new Twitter, please click yes. Anyone who has not done so by 5:00 p.m. Thursday will receive three months of severance."

And there's only 3,100 workers left after Elon Musk fired half of them in his first few weeks. And reports say there's a lot of confusion amongst the Twitter staff. So the company had to send out more detailed answers to clarify, it's two months pay with benefits, one month severance, but you have to sign a separation letter.

Also, no response will be taken as a resignation. Work visas will extend for three months. Remote work is over and work outside of business hours and weekends might be required. Now, Twitter's trust and safety team, who are responsible for keeping hate speech and misinformation off the site, they were discussing a possible mass resignation, according to the latest reports.

Meantime, you have seven Democratic senators, including Liz Warren, sending a letter to the FTC, asking for an investigation, writing that "Elon Musk has taken alarming steps," they say, "that undermine the integrity and safety of the platform and announced new features, despite clear warnings that those changes would be abused for fraud, scams and dangerous impersonation."

Now, yesterday Sandra, you heard Elon Musk testify in a separate Tesla lawsuit that he really doesn't want to be the CEO of Twitter or really any company -- back to you.

SMITH: All right, Susan Li on that for us.

Susan, thank you.

President Biden's agenda set to face a divided government. Will that make it harder to implement it? We will debate it next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

SMITH: President Biden returning home to a split government. Will it make things harder to implement his agenda?

Joining us now to discuss, Democratic pollster Mark Penn and The Washington Examiner's Sarah Westwood.

Good to have both of you here.

So, Mark, what do you think is the answer to that question?

MARK PENN, FORMER CLINTON CAMPAIGN STRATEGIST: Well, it really depends whether the president's running for reelection, in which case I think you're going to see him make some compromises.

Maybe we will have a bill related to more cops and crime and the kinds of things that appeal to swing voters. Or, if he's not running for reelection, I don't think you will see much of anything.

SMITH: Wow. OK.

Sarah?

SARAH WESTWOOD, THE WASHINGTON EXAMINER: Well, I think, look, Democrats didn't get a whole lot done when they had unified control of government in what the party seemed to perceive as a mandate coming out of 2020.

Now they lost control of the House, and the 2024 Senate map is going to be difficult for Democrats. They have way more Democratic senators' seats to defense than Republican ones that are going to be in cycle in 2024. So a lot of those blue -- those blue Democrats in red states are going to be a lot more reluctant to embrace Biden's agenda if they know they're vulnerable in the next two years.

SMITH: Mark, obviously -- an obvious question, is there -- are there any lessons learned here for Democrats, seeing the flip of the House?

When voters throughout the midterm election season were sending a very strong message to Washington, to these candidates that they care about inflation, they care about crime, they care about the border, do you think, with this divided government, we can see some bipartisanship and some work get done on those key issues?

PENN: Well, I know there's the Problem Solvers Caucus, which is made up of 30 -- I think it's 36 members on Democratic and Republican side.

And I think that group is going to be very active in trying to create some bipartisan solutions here. Remember, a lot of legislation this -- in the last few years didn't actually come from the White House. It really came from within Congress.

So I think you're going to see some efforts here to get some things done and things that really go to moderate voters, as opposed to please the left or the right.

SMITH: Give me an example. Where?

PENN: Well, that's what I was saying. I think -- I think a police bill that does 100,000 cops, that does more funding for police, that's the kind of thing that I think moderate Democrats and Republicans could agree upon and would be big for the country.

SMITH: Sarah?

WESTWOOD: I think it's possible that the left-wing of the party could be emboldened by these results, right? They could see that the results of the midterms weren't nearly as bad for Democrats as was expected. And they could take that as a sort of stamp of approval from the American people on some of the more liberal elements of the party.

I don't think, though, that's the correct interpretation of the results. But you already do see some Democrats taking that kind of a victory lap. So it's possible that they will take away some potentially damaging lessons from these midterm results in which they outperformed expectations.

SMITH: OK, so, Sarah, as far as clinging to some sort of hope, which we all want to, where do you think? I mean, I know you're sort of indicating there's going to be a rough road ahead here, but what do you think is the best chances of some bipartisanship, which a lot of people are hoping for?

WESTWOOD: Yes, I mean, I think if there's anything that can be done to bring inflation down in any kind of meaningful way, a public safety bill, like Mark suggested, could be something that they could pursue.

But, look, all of the low-hanging fruit was kind of hit during the last Congress, the bipartisan infrastructure bill, for example. There's not a lot left that hasn't already been discussed.

SMITH: OK.

Hey, I have only got 38 seconds left in the show.

Mark, the Biden administration says it plans to ask the Supreme Court to reinstate the president's student debt cancellation plan. That is just crossing. Five seconds.

PENN: Yes, I don't think that the administration is going to have much luck with this one. Even -- even the Senate said that there is no pandemic emergency right now. The underpinning for this just doesn't exist.

SMITH: All right, that is news. Thank you very much for joining us, both of you.

You can catch me tomorrow, weekdays 1:00 p.m. Eastern time for "America Reports."

Keep it right here on the FOX News Channel, because a special edition of "The Five" starts right now.

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HD **McConnell Fends Off Challenge To Leadership Post; Tensions Within GOP After Midterm Performance; Republicans On Cusp Of House Majority; New Info About Deadly Missile Strike In Poland; Army Special Ops Vet On Missile Strike In Poland; Doctor: Leno Cracking Jokes, Giving Out Cookies; FTX Founder, Celebs Hit With Class Action Lawsuit; Killer Of 4 Idaho Students Still At Large; GOP 2024 Field Crowded With Potential Contenders; 25 Law Enforcement Recruits Hits By SUV During Run**

BY Martha MacCallum, Chad Pergram, Shannon Bream, Jennifer Griffin, Brett Velicovich, Kelly O'Grady, Dan Springer, Katie Pavlich, Howie Kurtz, William La Jeunesse

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SN Fox News Channel: The Story with Martha MacCallum

SC HUNDD

LA English

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LP

JOHN ROBERTS, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: All right, we'll be watching for your reporting on that. Dan Springer for us in Moscow, Idaho. Dan, thank you. And Sandra, that's going to wrap it up for us today.

SANDRA SMITH, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Yes, that does it for us. Great to be with you, John. Thanks for joining us, everyone. I'm Sandra Smith.

TD

ROBERTS: You as well. I'm John Roberts. We will see you again tomorrow. THE STORY with Martha starts right now.

MARTHA MACCALLUM, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Thank you very much, you guys. Good afternoon, everybody. I'm Martha MacCallum. A victory today for Mitch McConnell, who says he's "not going anywhere," as the GOP sees challenges to all leadership positions from the Senate, to the House, to the RNC, and this comes one day after the vote to hand Kevin McCarthy the speaker's gavel within his own conference that vote happened, is going to have to go to the larger members of the House in the coming weeks, but the party clearly trying to regain their footing, find the way forward in the wake of some still unfinished business in a continued very tight election that is still playing out.

Shannon Bream joins us in moments with her take. First, to Senior Congressional Correspondent Chad Pergram live on Capitol Hill with the latest. Hi, Chad.

CHAD PERGRAM, FOX NEWS CHANNEL SENIOR CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Martha, good afternoon. There had not been a challenge to the Senate GOP leader in 15 years, but Mitch McConnell vanquished the aspirations of Rick Scott to lead Senate Republicans the -- vote, 37 to 10.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. MITCH MCCONNELL (R-KY): But I'm not in any way offended by having an opponent or having a few votes in opposition. We had a good opportunity to discuss the various differences. People had a chance to listen to both candidates. And I'm pretty proud of 37 to 10.

PERGRAM (voiceover): Rick Scott ran GOP re-election efforts. He speculated the GOP could get 55 seats. Steve Daines of Montana will run campaign efforts for 2024. McConnell did not take the bait. When asked about Scott.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: How do you assess the NRC's performance under Rick Scott? And will there be changes under Chairman Daines?

MCCONNELL: Yes, that's up to Steve. I don't intend to assess the performance at all.

PERGRAM: Conservatives wanted to postpone the leadership elections, especially since the GOP failed to win control.

SEN. JOSH HAWLEY (R-MO): What I was trying to get out with my questions to the two leadership candidates, what are we going to do different and affirmatively to actually appeals to independent voters? In my own view is we've got to go out there --

PERGRAM: Reporters asked McConnell if he might quit after breaking the record for the longest leadership tenure in the Senate. It's held by Montana's Mike Mansfield. McConnell says he's not leaving.

Also, Democrats tapped Patty Murray to serve as Senate President Pro-Tem, the job usually goes to the most senior senator of the majority party. Murray would be third in line to the presidency, she'd leap frog 89-year-old, Dianne Feinstein. Patrick Leahy is retiring. Martha.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM (on camera): Chad, thank you very much. With that, we bring in Fox News Sunday Anchor, Shannon Bream. Shannon, great to have you with us today and fascinating to watch the shuffle that is going on post-election, where you know, it looks like the GOP is going to pull out a win in the House. I'm going to show everybody these ridiculously still going on races at the end of our discussion.

But I want to play this for Mitch McConnell, because McConnell has really not spoken to President Trump for a very long time. And Rick Scott, who challenged him had the support of President Trump. So, we see the two sides really battling it out here. Here's another sound bite from Mitch McConnell.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MCCONNELL: We underperformed among independents and moderate because their impression of many of the people in our party and leadership roles is that there's (INAUDIBLE) and chaos, negativity, excessive tax, which is why you all recall, I never predicted a red wave.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: So, Senator Rick Scott, who headed the NRSC did predict a big wave. At one point, he said he was going to win all of the races that they were invested in. And Mitch McConnell said that there was candidate, candidate quality problems, Shannon, so how's the chicken out?

SHANNON BREAM, FOX NEWS CHANNEL ANCHOR (on camera): There is a lot of finger-pointing, as you would imagine, and as we've seen publicly, and we've heard plenty of it privately as well. You talk about those candidates. There's a lot of conversation that Senator Rick Scott, who was responsible for trying to flip the Senate from blue to red, was reticent to get involved with some of the primary situations which we had candidates who were viewed as more extreme were backed by President Trump that he didn't get in the middle of that.

He allowed them to sort of proceed through the primary situation. And then, once we got to the general, there were questions about where money flowed from the National Senatorial Campaign Committee, and also from the dollars that were attached to Senator Mitch McConnell and the in the dollars he could have directed to some of these races.

So, there's a lot of finger-pointing about why was there money spent in Alaska where you basically have two Republicans deciding which of the two Republicans are going to win when that money maybe would have been better spent in New Hampshire weeks ago or in Pennsylvania, when there was a time when Oz was really at a deficit with the dollars that he could get out there and spend.

So, there's going to be a lot of finger-pointing. There's also now a call potentially to audit the NSC that was led by Senator Rick Scott. He says, we have them all the time, the chairman says it's called an FTC report. So, there are a lot of people going back and forth trying to assign blame and figure out exactly what happened to that non-red wave in the Senate.

MACCALLUM: Yes, I mean, let's put up these races. Because it's pretty stunning that they are still trying to nail down the House. Some people have called this, we have the House races at 217 for Republicans. But when you look at these spreads 47 to 52, in House, California, three -- let's just scroll right through these.

And you can see this one Valadeo and Salas, 47 to 52. And the other one that we have is also looks like you know the kind of races that we call even on election night based on the amount that is in and how far apart these are Shannon, what's going on?

BREAM: Well, gosh, at the fact that every state, every state legislature under the Constitution gets to decide exactly how they're going to handle their elections and proceed through this process, it means that

we do have these 50 laboratories of democracy. Now, people will point to Florida, a giant state that had giant problems in 2000. It's up to the states figure out how they want to try to solve their own problems, and we wait in the meantime.

MACCALLUM: Frustrating. Shannon, thank you very much.

BREAM: Standing by.

MACCALLUM: We'll see you soon.

BREAM: Good to see you.

MACCALLUM: And definitely on Sunday. Thanks for being here today. So, we have a big exclusive to bring to you later this hour. We will speak with one of the attorneys who is now taking a class action legal suit against the so-called Crypto-Wiz Kids, Sam Bankman-Fried. If you didn't know who he was before this week, you sure do now because they are fighting to win back \$11 billion from investors in his crypto-fund and his currency of a now bankrupt exchange.

They're talking about extraditing him from the Bahamas back to the U.S. for this, we'll speak to the lawyer who is bringing that suit and our top- ranking general slams Vladimir Putin in his first response to the missile that landed in our NATO-ally Poland and killed two people. Former U.S. Army intelligence and special operations soldier Brett Velicovich spends a lot of time on the ground in Ukraine, his take on how he sees what happened here.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

GEN. MARK MILLEY, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF CHAIRMAN: This is one of the most significant attempts to destroy the rules-based order that World War III was fought all about.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: Some tense moments and fears that the war in Ukraine might have spilled into Poland have subsided for now. The head of NATO and the President of Poland saying that it was more likely Ukraine N.I. missile fire that landed in Poland. It happened amidst the barrage of Russian missile attacks. The Pentagon had a lengthy news conference taking questions just a short time ago.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

LLOYD AUSTIN, DEFENSE SECRETARY: We have seen nothing that contradicts President Duda's preliminary assessment that this explosion was most likely the result of a Ukrainian air defense missile that unfortunately landed in Poland. And whatever the final conclusions may be, the world knows that Russia bears ultimate responsibility for this incident.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: Former Army Special Operations Soldier, Brett Velicovich, who spends a lot of time on the ground in Ukraine is standing by, but first let's go to Chief National Security Correspondent Jennifer Griffin, who was in that news conference this afternoon, reporting live from the Pentagon. Hi, Jennifer.

JENNIFER GRIFFIN, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CHIEF NATIONAL SECURITY CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Hi, Martha. Well, U.S. investigators are on the ground with Polish investigators looking at the aftermath of yesterday's missile strike. Even though President Zelenskyy has denied it was Ukraine's air defense missile that landed in Poland.

Secretary Austin, as you reported, said the U.S. agrees with Poland that it was likely a Ukrainian air defense missile, an S-300, that went awry. General Milley was asked to explain why he suggested during a speech in New York last week, that this winter could be a time to negotiate an end to the war.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MILLEY: The Russian military is really hurting bad. So, you want to negotiate at a time when you're at your strength, and your opponent is at weakness. And it's possible, maybe, that there'll be a political solution. All I'm, all I'm saying is there's a possibility for it. That's all I'm saying.

GRIFFIN (voiceover): General Milley reiterated that neither side from his assessment can win this war militarily, even though Ukraine stated goal is to kick Russia out of all of Ukraine, including Crimea.

MILLEY: Russia could end this war today. Russia could put an end to it right now, but they won't. They're going to continue that fight. They're going to continue that fight into the winter, as best we can tell. And, we, in the United States, under the direction of the President and the Secretary Defense, we will continue to support Ukraine for as long as it takes.

GRIFFIN: Earlier today, Secretary Austin hosted the seventh meeting of the Ukraine contact group. The weapons donor countries who met this morning virtually here at the Pentagon and pledged hundreds of millions of dollars of more aid to Ukraine, including badly needed anti-missile defense systems. Austin thanked Sweden, Canada, Germany, Spain, Poland and Greece in particular.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GRIFFIN (on camera): Yesterday, Martha, was the closest that NATO came to being dragged in to the Ukraine conflict with confusion surrounding the missile that struck Poland.

Russia fired more than 60 cruise missiles into Ukraine yesterday, the largest number of missiles into Ukraine in a single day since the invasion began.

We learned that the press conference that when General Milley office tried to reach out to his Russian counterpart, the Russians did not take the call. Martha?

MACCALLUM: Jennifer, thank you very much.

With that, let's bring in Brett Velicovich. He was a former Army Special Operation soldier and a Fox News contributor. Brett, good to have you with us today.

Jennifer just talked about General Milley reaching out to his Russian counterpart, no response to those official channels. But they did put this word out from the Kremlin, saying that there was international response to all of this had been "Russophobic", and "As for Poland's incident, Russia has nothing whatsoever to do with it. We have witnessed another hysterical, frenzied Russophobic reaction that was not based on any real data."

So, Brett, you know, given the amount of time that you have spent on the ground in Ukraine, what do you make of this whole incident, and the response to it?

BRETT VELICOVICH, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CONTRIBUTOR (on camera): It's a diplomatic mess right now, frankly. And it feels like a strategic win for Russia, if it is, in fact, the Ukrainian air defense missile that landed in Poland.

Unless the U.S. acts fast to reverse that win, it's probably set back some of these planned diplomacy discussions. You know, Russia has been accusing Ukraine for months about these false flag operations.

And we'll always be able to point back to this moment and claim this was an example of a deliberate provocation aimed at escalating the war and drawing NATO in, because Ukraine's leadership, unfortunately jumped the gun by claiming this was definitively Russian terrorism.

And it's also a win for Russia, because behind the scenes, they get to collect data, they get to analyze the actions here of NATO and the United States after the fact. Not just what we do next, after Russians actions cause the strike to take place on NATO soil, but also now, they have confirmed proof that a missile can penetrate NATO, supposed rock solid air defense, and that's a big issue.

You know, NATO is questioning itself now on whether or not they're really protected along that border. The discussions coming up should really focus on how do they tighten up these air defenses?

I mean, how did that rocket even cross the border? We're supposed to help defend every single inch of NATO territory, we spend billions of dollars out there. So, how did this missile get through?

The administration, I think, owes an explanation.

(CROSSTALK)

MACCALLUM: Yes.

VELICOVICH: Because it kind of reminds me -- you know, when the Democrats say our southern border is completely secure, yet 1000s of people sneak through every month, including people on the terrorist watch list.

So, Russia knows now that missiles can cross that border, and it's dangerous from a tactical perspective.

MACCALLUM: It's great point. It's a great point. Do you think we're getting the whole story here? And you know, an earlier report came through that said that the Ukrainians wanted to go and inspect the site. And then, there was pushback that if they want to do that, they have to have Polish and other, you know, military officials from NATO with them, while they inspect the site. What is that about?

VELICOVICH: Well, that's a mistake. They should allow inspectors from all sides to look at it. So that they are very transparent. I think President Zelenskyy needs to be transparent whether or not this was, in fact, a mistake on the Ukrainian side. It's really important to do that.

You know, but either way, we've been talking about the consequences of this war spilling into NATO, and we're seeing it here.

I do believe it highlights once again, how Russia has constant strikes and Ukraine threatened NATO. And the conditions need to be set to protect countries like Poland and the surrounding countries, you know, from these events.

But you also have to remember too that there's a lot of economic fallout that came from this. People don't realize last night in Poland, there was this chaos and a lot of logistics shutdown, including, you know, even putting pause on our own humanitarian operations in the field.

I mean, we had charter flights that refused to fly in. My team at UkraineFriends.org and Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

We have a massive ongoing humanitarian effort taking place to move supplies through Poland daily. And last night, we were told charter aircraft pilots would be refusing to fly because of this unknown fear.

MACCALLUM: Yes.

VELICOVICH: And so, there is these secondary effects. You've got geopolitical tensions, and the risk of escalation also caused a market reaction across the board, stocks dropped.

And so, people are going to think twice about visiting this region. So, it just continues to be a bit of a win for Russia. I think we need to look at modernizing their air defense systems in Poland. Strengthen these systems.

They are using old Soviet Union systems for their air defense. So, we can fix that and make this in the end a win strategically for NATO.

MACCALLUM: Some irony there that they're using old Russian anti-missile defense systems in Poland. Thank you, Brett.

It's great to have you with us. Thanks for the work that you're doing and we'll talk to you soon. Very, very good to have you.

VELICOVICH: Thanks, Martha.

MACCALLUM: All right.

MACCALLUM (voice over): So, coming up, a big Democrat donor, behind the largest ever collapse of a cryptocurrency exchange, is now facing a class action lawsuit that seeks \$11 billion in damages.

One of the attorneys who filed that suit, calls it a massive Ponzi scheme, larger than the Madoff scheme. And he's bringing Tom Brady and Giselle into this as well, and other celebrities.

He will join me in a story exclusive, coming up next.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CHARLIE GASPARINO, FOX BUSINESS NETWORK SENIOR CORRESPONDENT: It looks like a Madoff situation. You taken from Peter to pay Paul. Using it to prop-up your own native currency, FTT, which was imploding, particularly after --

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: So, we just got an update on how Jay Leno is doing. The head of the burn unit where he's recovering says Leno is working -- was working underneath one of his cars on Saturday when it burst into flames leaving him with pretty significant burns on his face, hands and chest.

He has had one operation and they say he will need another procedure this week. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DR. PETER GROSSMAN, MEDICAL DIRECTOR, GROSSMAN BURN CENTER: I do anticipate him making a full recovery. Whether there will be remnants of this injury, it's still way too early to jump.

He is Jay Leno. He is walking around and he is cracking jokes and he is -- I can tell you that he is incredibly kind to our nursing staff. He is very compliant. He's very appreciative of everybody here.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: Well, that's good to hear. As you hear, the doctors say that the injuries were serious. But that his condition is good, and he's also giving out cookies, apparently, to children in the burn unit.

So, good for him for having such a positive attitude about what has been a difficult a week for him to be sure. We wish him well.

MACCALLUM: So, let's get you the latest in his story, which is getting an enormous amount of attention. This so-called crypto whiz kid behind the collapse that wiped out billions of dollars of people's investments.

He was a big donor to Democrat candidates. He was second only to George Soros, according to the records. The U.S. and Bahamas, reportedly now trying to extradite him back to the United States to answer for some of this.

In moments, we'll talk to a lawyer who is suing over this collapse. And included in his suit are Tom Brady and Gisele Bundchen, and others a list celebrities that are part of this suit who all supported FTX in commercial. So, we're going to talk about that.

But first, to Fox Business correspondent Kelly O'Grady reporting live from Los Angeles. Hi, Kelly.

KELLY O'GRADY, FOX BUSINESS NETWORK CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Hi, Martha.

Yes, you mentioned those fundraising, fundraising ties to Democrats. It really raises questions about how impactful the founder has been in influencing regulation, donating to a number of folks that we're introducing friendly legislation to the crypto industry.

O'GRADY (voice over): Now, this has been a major fall from grace and he went from bracing the cover of Forbes. Now, holed up in the Bahamas. But really next what we can expect is a lot of legal trouble.

So, you mentioned that class action lawsuit brought against the FTX Founder, a number of high profile celebrities alleging that they're responsible for 11 billion in damages to consumers.

So, you see there, Tom Brady, Shaquille O'Neal, amongst the many others that promoted the crypto exchange.

Here's a clip from that Tom Brady commercial.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: A trade, are you -- are you sure?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Not a trade, trade. I'm trading crypto. FTX is the safest and easiest way to buy and sell crypto. It's the best way to get in the game.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

O'GRADY: Now, the suit alleges the defendants didn't disclose the nature, scope, and compensation related to the partnership, and there is precedent for folks to have to pay up.

Kim Kardashian agreed to pay a \$1.26 million fine to the SEC after promoting a different crypto on Instagram. She was charged with failure to disclose that she was paid 250,000 to publish her Instagram post.

Now, more legal trouble though looming at the federal level. The House will be holding a hearing in December, reviewing the FTX fallout, and we should really expect lawmakers to go in hard here. This is an opportunity for Washington to enact more regulation, because this is being likened to the next Enron. Martha?

MACCALLUM: Wow. Kelly, thank you very much. With that, we bring in Adam Moskowitz, an attorney who is suing over FTX's crypto collapse on behalf of his client, Edward Garrison in this class action lawsuit.

Mr. Moskowitz, welcome. Good to have you here. Tell us what your client's interest is here.

(CROSSTALK)

ADAM MOSKOWITZ, ATTORNEY TO EDWARD GARRISON: Thank you, Martha.

MACCALLUM: And what you think happened in -- you know, what's criminal here, potentially?

MOSKOWITZ: I don't think John Grisham could have made up facts any crazier than this past week. We have been battling Voyager which was the third largest crypto company here in Miami for over a year.

And the end result was going to be that FTX was going to put in a billion dollars and give to the victims of Voyager. But what happens last week, FTX goes bankrupt. So, they now have about \$11 billion, which they've taken from investors, the Voyager investors now are getting nothing.

So, we're continuing our two cases because FTX was based here in Miami. That's where the fraud emanated from. That's where the Bitcoin Miami convention took place. So we're going to make sure that anybody and everybody that could be liable.

And you brought it up there, Martha, there is celebrities that made a lot of money and promoted this product. And there is case law right on point that unless you tell people you're getting paid and how much you're getting paid, and what your incentive is, you can be liable.

Floyd Mayweather was liable. DJ Khaled was liable. Kim Kardashian was liable. And the worst of all is Mark Cuban, who not only did an Instagram or a post, he did roadshows. He took his Dallas Mavericks team to promote the Voyager stock, and he said it was the safest and the best investment. So, he certainly promoted the product.

(CROSSTALK)

MACCALLUM: So -- yes. You know --

MOSKOWITZ: He could be liable.

But I would imagine their attorneys are going to say: A, they had no idea that this was an, you know, an investment that would be dangerous. They were told that everything was fine on the books at FTX. Though, also, I would imagine, say that there's some caveat emptor here.

You know, these are risky investments. Cryptocurrency is something a lot of people can't, you know, can't wrap their hands or their brains around for very good reason. I might add. What do you think of those defenses?

MOSKOWITZ: Well, I think that's exactly the point. How can they say we didn't know much about it, but as you just saw from Tom Brady's commercial, he is saying it's safe and a great investment.

The SEC and the regulators have made it clear. If you're going to be a celebrity endorser, you need to state right up front what you're getting paid, what your incentive is, so that the -- so that the public when they listen to you can make their decision.

These celebrities did nothing. Steph Curry did nothing, Larry David did nothing, but say trust us.

And the only way this massive fraud could have taken place for \$12 billion is to get the largest and the most famous people in the world that everybody will rely upon and trust. And that's what they did. And they were going to share in the recovery of FTX, so they got us here in the liability.

MACCALLUM: Well, I encourage everybody to read the background on this story and how the money started moving around to different assets, and some of it disappeared, and maybe hidden somewhere to protect Sam Bankman-Fried so that he doesn't go completely bankrupt. We don't know. We'll see where the money leads, and also the big questions about these Democrat donors and whether or not that led to loose regulation for these firms from wolves from Washington and Capitol Hill.

I hope you'll keep us posted on how this goes out of my squats. Thanks for joining us today. We look forward to seeing this story --

MOSKOWITZ: Thank you so much, Martha.

GUTHRIE: You bet, all right. Take a look at these images from Moscow, India -- I mean, Moscow, Idaho, excuse me. There's just so shocking. This is blood dripping from the outside of this house, where four people were killed. That's the report that comes from the local affiliates, the local outlets in Idaho. It's just a

stunning, horrible sight to think about what happened inside that house. Defense attorney Mark Eigarsh joins me next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: Well, this is a quote, "it was a very bloody scene." That is what the police have told Fox News Digital about the off campus house where four University of Idaho students were murdered over the weekend. In this image you can see what is purported to be a blood stained wall on the outside of the house. As investigators comb through the trash cans looking for the "edged weapon" is how they're describing the weapon of killing here, that they believe was used.

In a moment criminal defense attorney Mark Eigarsh on his take on this crime. First to correspondent Dan Springer live near the crime scene in Moscow, Idaho. Hi, Dan

DAN SPRINGER, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Yes, Martha. They have stopped looking for weapons right around that house, but the coroner here told me that it was the most horrific crime scene she has seen in her long career. The rental house where these murders took place just off campus is still taped off and being guarded by Moscow police. All three of the female students who were killed live there. The blood appears to be on the concrete foundation just outside and upstairs back bedroom, indicating just how violent the crime scene was.

Again, the victims were Ethan Chapin, Madison Mogen, Xana Kernodle and Kaylee GonCalves, and they were together at a party Saturday night just hours before they were killed. Chapin and Kernodle were apparently dating. His mother shot down rumors about what happened. She tweeted that drugs were not involved and that it was not a crime of passion.

Most of the university students apparently have left campus early for Thanksgiving break a week away. There are some growing memorials around campus and signs of support in the city. Despite police saying that this was a targeted attack and there is no ongoing threat with the killers still out there, plenty of people are scared and taking their own safety measures.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JEREMY REAGAN, MOSCOW, IDAHO RESIDENT: Now I carry a weapon on me. I used to do that before I moved up to Moscow. Moved to Moscow thought it was super safe, stopped. And then this happened. And so at least if and until they find who did it, I'm going to continue carrying a weapon on me again.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SPRINGER: The autopsies are beginning now in Spokane about 80 miles away. We expect to have results by the end of the week. And, Martha, I know we've been talking a lot about the lack of information from police. We finally got word that they are going to hold their first news conference at 3:30 Local Time. So hopefully we'll start getting some answers from them on why they say there's not an ongoing threat to the public even as this killer is still out there. Martha?

MACCALLUM: That's a mystery. Dan, thank you very much. We look forward to that in a couple of hours.

So let's bring in Mark Eigarsh, criminal defense attorney and former prosecutor. Mark, you just heard the latest in this case. There's also one other piece of information that has come in which says back in September, campus security sent out what is known as a vandal alert to staff and students with a subject line threat with knife notifying the community of the alarming incident. The Moscow Police Department received a report that a group of students was walking and were threatened by "a person with a knife." May be relevant, may not be relevant, your take on where this case stands right now, Mark.

MARK EIGLARSH, CRIMINAL DEFENSE ATTORNEY: Well, what jumps out at me is that, when they come out and they say that it was an isolated targeted attack, either this is one of those scenarios where they're trying to make everybody calm down. They don't really know that for sure but they want to stop the mass exodus of students and the fear that's permeating that campus. Or, what I really suspect is they're going to announce very soon, some real time extreme evidence to show why they believe that this was isolated and that nobody has to worry about any further attacks.

MACCALLUM: I mean, it seems that they know something about this that they're not sharing yet. And it's good news that there's going to be a news conference. We obviously want their investigation to be protected and to the extent that it needs to be.

I spoke with the mayor of the town yesterday. Here's what he said.

(BEGIN AUDIO CLIP)

ARE BETTGE, MAYOR OF MOSCOW, IDAHO: They knows something from the crime scene and the nature of the crime that they have not shared with the rest of us. And that is because they're wishing to protect the integrity of the investigation, eventual prosecution and also to prevent the perpetrator from understanding the direction and progress in the investigation as well.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: It's a strange and an absolutely horrible crime. I can't imagine what the families of these kids are going through right now, Mark. But, you know, what's your best assessment of the type of what you think played out here, whether it was one of them, a murder suicide, perhaps, or whether it was somebody from the outside?

EIGLARSH: Martha, I know that we want to speculate, but I'm not going to do it. In fact, I'm going to ask that people respect what the family is going through. Imagine it's one of your loved ones, it's one of your children at school, what they're having to hear from people suggesting maybe erroneously that it had something to do with drugs or some type of nefarious conduct. I encourage people not to speculate.

And also I applaud the mayor for putting that statement out to perhaps help people understand that you got to wait and don't expect the police to tell you everything. They've got a whole thing's close to their vest, because if they reveal it to us, they are compromising their investigation.

MACCALLUM: Mark, thank you. Hopefully, we'll get more information in a couple of hours from this news conference. And hopefully, they have figured out who did this. Thank you, Mark. We'll see you soon.

EIGLARSH: My pleasure.

MACCALLUM: Katie Pavlich, Howie Kurtz and Doug Schoen on the potential for a 2024 rematch if former President Trump can get past his Republican rivals, potentially the Florida Governor Ron DeSantis who says that it's just time for everybody to pump the brakes here.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

RON DESANTIS (R), FLORIDA GOVERNOR: And people just need to chill out a little bit on some of this stuff. I mean, seriously, we just ran an election. We have this Georgia runoff coming which is very important for Republicans to win that Georgia runoff. I mean, I know around the country, Florida was kind of the biggest bright spot. It was not so bright in many other parts of the country. It was a substandard performance given the dynamics that are at play.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: So we're still waiting to find out who will have control of the House next year. 217 is the number for Republicans right now, they need 218. See when they crossed that threshold. We'll bring it to you, of course.

So next year President Biden's aides are reportedly looking to an announcement then for the 2024 election. There was some discussion that might happen between Thanksgiving Christmas, now they're pushing that off to next year, 2023. And Politico reporting that the White House and the DNC are making plans for a possible campaign and how to reach out to black and Latino voters. The White House denies that but the President did take aim at a potential 2024 opponent posting this video on Twitter.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP, FORMER PRESIDENT OF UNITED STATES: Nobody has ever done what we've done in the last four years.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Their entire economic plan tax cuts for the rich and corporations.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: And record breaking unemployment.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: Let's bring in our panel, Katie Pavlich townhall.com news editor, MediaBuzz host Howie Kurtz and Doug Schoen, former adviser to President Clinton. Great to have all of you here.

We want to get to the former president's announcement last night. But, Doug, let me just ask you, first of all, is it surprising that there's already this organization underway with the Democratic National Committee beginning to put together ads in the wake of this announcement already from President Trump?

DOUG SCHOEN, FORMER ADVISER TO PRESIDENT CLINTON: It isn't surprising, Martha. It may be that many viewers and many rational people thought we are a fully engaged deeply polarized country. And with the exit polls having shown nationally that the Democrats lost 10 points with both Blacks and Hispanics, there is a real fear that notwithstanding the relatively good outcome of the midterm elections for the Democrats. There are a lot of problems that the party faces. They also know that attacking Donald Trump is a winning strategy, hence the video you just played.

MACCALLUM: OK. Katie, the president's announcement, the former president's announcement last night, what did you think of it?

KATIE PAVLICH, NEWS EDITOR, TOWNHALL.COM: Well, they stayed on substance. This is the -- he, of course, pulled up Trump and set another record a new precedent with the earliest announcement we've ever seen. And now, of course, this determines who is going to get into the race or not. It's interesting that everybody keeps asking you about Ron DeSantis when he hasn't declared. I think when he says let's pump the brakes in a minute, there's a lot of people who may feel like that there was a lot of controversy over whether President Trump would announce before or after the midterms, a week after. On the dot, he did.

But when it comes to how the Biden team is handling Donald Trump, let's not forget that throughout the Biden administration, when the press secretary has been asked about Trump repeatedly, or President Biden himself, they refuse to say his name. And now they're taking him seriously as a candidate who has announced. They've also, for the past two years, been in a fight with Florida Governor Ron DeSantis. Whether was withholding COVID treatments for his state, or the most recent feud of sending illegal immigrants to Martha's Vineyard. So they're taking both of these candidates seriously.

But again, Donald Trump is the only one who's actually in the race. So they're paying attention to him moving forward, as you mentioned with the video they put out.

MACCALLUM: So clearly, Howie, the former president wanted to make a big splash last night with this announcement. Did he succeed?

HOWIE KURTZ, HOST, MEDIABUZZ: Well, he got a whole lot of coverage as you would expect. But, you know, what you Joe Biden wants for the next six months or so is for Trump to be out there by himself with his hyper aggressive style. Because you know, guaranteed that the subdued and scripted tone of last night's speech is going to last about another 10 minutes.

And so he hangs back, he acts presidential, he meets with world leaders. And meanwhile, the White House will have to respond to what undoubtedly will be a daily barrage from Trump of harsh attacks on Biden, who has the press on his side. But it worked pretty well in the midterms, many of us thought it would not, for Biden to take a lower key approach.

And Ron DeSantis may want the same thing. He has no need to jump into this two years before the election and get down in the mud with Donald Trump.

MACCALLUM: So this is from the Washington Examiner, Salena Zito, who has been pretty good at having her finger on the pulse of what's going on in the rest of America. She said, to date the two people have not gotten the memo from voters are the former president and the current president. In other words, one consequence of 2022 is that neither Trump nor Biden should be considered a sure thing for their party's nomination in 2024. We will see who is listening. Doug Schoen?

SCHOEN: Well, I think Joe Biden is a sure thing if he runs, if he's able to run, and if he wants to run. Sitting president should not denied nominations, but I think it's a fair question to ask whether ultimately he will be the standard bearer.

On the Republican side, I think Trump recognized as Howie just suggested, that he had to tone himself down. But I also think that we're going to see Trump try to preempt the field of the Republican additional candidates by being out there aggressively, so that when Ron DeSantis is saying, let's chill, Trump will be doing the opposite, trying to preclude and block DeSantis and others from getting into the race.

MACCALLUM: Yes. Katie, some of the big donors like Ken Griffin and Stephen Schwarzman have indicated that they're looking for someone else other than the former president. Does that matter?

PAVLICH: It might. It's extremely early. In may matter but Donald Trump's strength comes from the people who are loyal to him, which at this point is about 30% of the Republican Party. So if it's a one on one race with Ron DeSantis or someone else, or a two on one race, there's a chance of beating Donald Trump. But if it's a one on the sixth, one on eighth race, Donald Trump easily wins the nomination. The donors may take a second look, when it comes to winning a general election against a Democrat based on policy positions.

One more quick thing. All the stories about Joe Biden, you know, maybe not running or the Democratic Party replacing him came to a screeching halt last Tuesday. And if things had gone differently, and Democrats had lost the Senate, I think we've been talking about who's going to replace Joe Biden a little bit more than we were talking about it in the lead up to the election.

MACCALLUM: Absolutely. We were hearing a very different tone from a lot of Democrats about what was going to happen. There's no way that Joe Biden is going to be the candidate. He's enjoying a good couple of weeks on that.

KURTZ: But, Martha, there's always been a symbiotic relationship between Trump and Biden. If it looks like Trump's going to be the nominee, Democrats are going to have a very hard time saying no to the guy who -- only guy who beat him last time. But if it looks like Trump isn't going to get knocked off in the primaries, then I think there'll be a lot of pressure for next generation Democrat instead of --

MACCALLUM: This is why we love to watch all of this. Thanks, you guys. Great to see all of you. Thank you very much.

SCHOEN: Thank you.

KURTZ: Thanks.

MACCALLUM: So coming up, a breaking update from Los Angeles on the condition of 25 sheriff recruits who were out for a training run when a vehicle driving in the wrong direction plowed into them.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: Horrific scene in California, 25 Los Angeles County Sheriff's recruits out on a training run this morning when an SUV driving on the wrong side of the road crashed into them. Senior national correspondent William La Jeunesse reporting live from LA. Hi, William.

WILLIAM LA JEUNESSE, FOX NEWS SENIOR NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT: Well, the latest, Martha, is this, 23 injured including the driver. Five recruits, however, in critical condition after this SUV crossed the middle lane striking 75 recruits are out for a training run around sunrise. 65 men, 10 women, mostly in their 20s.

All in formation wearing white t-shirts with bright yellow reflective tape around their waist, accompanied by two police cruisers one front one behind but when this happened, the patrol cars were still blocking traffic at the last intersection. So these recruits were exposed when they were hit head on by this SUV going up to 40 miles an hour.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ALEX VILLANUEVA, LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF: It looks like it's an accident, horrific accident, but we can't know that for sure until the CHP does their investigation and reaches a conclusion based on all the evidence they still have yet to gather.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

LA JEUNESSE: The detained driver blue zero on the breathalyzer, so no alcohol, but CHP will take blood to look for drugs. A recruit told his girlfriend this about the crash.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ANGELICA MUSICK, BOYFRIEND INJURED UN CRASH: The car just went straight into them, and several of his classmates were severely injured. One basically severed foot, another laceration to the thigh.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

LA JEUNESSE: So one of the driver's family members told our local affiliate, Martha, that 22-year-old that he was on his way to work. And there's no evidence, however, of any skid marks in the street. The vehicle only stopped because it hit a light pole or more, according to the sheriff could have been killed or could have been worse.

At this point in time, you know, they're going to check it out and see what happened. But the good news is they were near a trauma center -- three trauma centers, so they were able to get to these hospitals very quickly, right in front of a fire station with paramedics. So that was a good part. Back to you.

MACCALLUM: Let's hope that these young men and women who were training to be law enforcement officials can recover, and we hope they can recover well because they're needed. That's for sure. What a terrible day for all of them and their families. Thank you, William, William La Jeunesse.

So that's THE STORY for today, Wednesday, November the 16th, about a week before Thanksgiving. THE STORY goes on. Have a great afternoon. Thank you for joining me today and I look forward to seeing you back here tomorrow.

END

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HD **The World Continues To Flirt With War; Inept Mayorkas Still Insists The Border Is Secure; Blueprint For Republicans In The House: Secure Borders And An End To Ukraine Spending; NBC Suspends Reporter Over Pelosi Story; Questions Remain Unanswered On Paul Pelosi Attack; Klaus Schwab Turns Up At G20 To Lecture The World; Sam Bankman-Fried Was The Democrats' Second Largest Donor This Election Cycle; Taylor Swift Fans Enraged After Facing Technical Difficulties While Purchasing Tickets; Women's Rights Activist Intimidated By Trans Thugs; Reports: Trump Files Papers To Run For President**

BY Tucker Carlson, Will Cain, Charlie Gasparino, Trace Gallagher

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JESSE WATTERS, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: He just has to come out and say, We're gathering the Intelligence. We're addressing the Intelligence. We're going to report back when we hear as soon as we get more information. Thank you very much. He couldn't do that. He couldn't execute the duties of the Commander-in-Chief.

Kellyanne, we've got to run. Tucker Carlson is next.

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WILL CAIN, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Well, good evening and welcome to TUCKER CARLSON TONIGHT. I am Will Cain in for Tucker.

Tonight, unfortunately, the world continues to flirt with World War Three. This morning, according to the Associated Press, citing now a senior US Intelligence official, it said that Russian missiles said the Associated Press "crossed into NATO member, Poland killing two people."

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KYLIE ATWOOD, CNN NATIONAL SECURITY CORRESPONDENT: The Pentagon says that they are tracking these reports though not confirming anything right out of the gates here, though being very clear in saying that the United States stands by Article V, which is an attack on -- an attack on one NATO country is an attack on all, and that is the concern here, guys.

If these were Russian missiles, all we know right now is that these were missiles or rockets that landed in this farm that is along the border of Poland and Ukraine in Polish territories, killing two, and if those were Russians, then that is the concern here that the Ukraine war could extrapolate and become something bigger.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CAIN: Whoa. "Extrapolate into something bigger."

Now, that wouldn't be the first time that a butterfly flapped its wings in Eastern Europe. I give you the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand for World War One buffs, and then a global war blew through America. So let's not extrapolate into a nuclear conflict this time without asking hard questions and asking for sober leadership.

You heard in that report the mention of Article V. That's a self-defense provision in the NATO Charter. Now, if invoked, it means World War against Russia, there is no doubt about it.

And within minutes of that apparent strike in Poland, the government of Estonia, a NATO ally, made it clear that World War might result: "Estonia is ready to defend every inch of NATO territory." Is America?

Now there are reports that instead of Article V, Poland will actually look to invoke Article IV, now, that would give them the power to ask NATO to come together for more support for Ukraine, more money, perhaps; air and anti-air power over Ukraine, and in fact, the White House today asked Congress for another \$37 billion. And of course, they'll get that for Ukraine.

In other words, whoever was responsible for that missile strike in Poland, well, they're about to get even richer -- Defense contractors.

Look, we don't know what happened yet in Poland. We don't know where those missiles came from. We don't know what was the intended target. We don't know if it was a mistake.

Russia denies launching the attack. The Pentagon hasn't confirmed it even happened. Ukraine's President Zelenskyy of course, has blamed Russia, but we should know the answers to these questions before we zombie walk into war.

And these questions can't just be brushed away with Putin apologists or conspiracy theorists, the same way that was done with COVID origins, vaccine efficacy, lockdown efficacy, mask efficacy, or asking for details and facts around the attack of Paul Pelosi, more on that in a moment.

Sadly, though, it's clear that our leadership in Washington is in no shape to handle any of this. Joe Biden had to skip dinner with the world leaders at the G20 Summit last night in Bali, retreating back to his hotel room for undisclosed reasons.

He was just on television before we broadcast looking quite confused in front of television cameras tonight. It is probably all better because if he were awake or lucid, he might verbally stumble us into Hiroshima.

Words are power.

Speaking of the power of words, like famous basketball dad, LaVar Ball, speaking it into existence, the head of the DHS suggested our border is secure, I guess attempting to speak that falsehood into existence, as fentanyl flows across and kills thousands of Americans every month.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. DAN BISHOP (R-NC): I've heard you in the judiciary Committee recently in the summer testify that the border is secure. Secretary Mayorkas, do you continue to maintain that the border is secure?

ALEJANDRO MAYORKAS, HOMELAND SECURITY SECRETARY: Yes, and we are working day in and day out to enhance its security.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CAIN: Alejandro Mayorkas undefeated, never lost. In reality, more than 230,000 people crossed the border last month compared to just 60,000 in October of 2019.

Now this is what's actually happening at the border courtesy of FOX's Bill Melugin.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BILL MELUGIN, FOX NEWS CHANNEL NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT: Take a look at this video we shot early this morning. This is drone video thermal drone video showing a single massive group of several hundred migrants crossing illegally into the Normandy, Texas area.

Normandy is a tiny little town on the northern outskirts of Eagle Pass, and as you look at this, you'll see just a single file line of migrants wading across the Rio Grande and entering Texas.

There is no resistance on either side of the border whatsoever, and once these migrants get to the US side, they simply crawl under a fence that was put up by the State of Texas and they walk into an area where they wait to be processed by border patrol.

And then just a couple hours after that thermal video across town in Eagle Pass, we had another group of migrants crossing illegally into the Eagle Pass area. This, at a private pecan orchard a couple of hundred single adults crossed in this area with a Border Patrol source telling FOX News, here in this Del Rio sector just since October 1st, there have already been nearly 50,000 illegal crossings.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CAIN: Totally unimpeded. How should Republicans respond to a crisis like this when the Federal government as led by the executive, Joe Biden refuses to act?

Well, today, it appears one Republican actually did something about it. Or did he?

Texas Governor Greg Abbott seemed to declare an invasion is in progress at the Southern border. Now under the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of Texas, that move would authorize Texas to independently crush the surge of illegal immigrants without needing any approval from the Federal government.

Specifically, Greg Abbott's decision to invoke the invasion clause would allow Texas to deploy the National Guard and Texas DPS to remove illegal immigrants.

But in his press release today, Texas Governor Greg Abbott said he would remove illegal immigrants to the border. Wait, to the border.

Ken Cuccinelli, he is the former Attorney General of Virginia and a big leader in this push for States to declare an invasion points out to the border is not deportation, it wouldn't stem the tide of illegal immigrants, and it doesn't invoke the full constitutional power of declaring an invasion.

So, is it just a press release? Another example of words? Or is this potentially leadership?

Republicans now have the House, at any moment, tonight, it could be called that the Republicans now have a majority in the House, and then the question becomes, might they be able to lead in actually solving the border crisis or maybe returning our elections to pre-pandemic election laws, or maybe even being that sorely lacking sober leadership we need before we extrapolate ourselves into World War Three.

For too long now, we've been gaslit, we've been shouted down, we have been censored, our questions have been called conspiracies, where the English language is tortured to the point where you can no longer explain what is a woman or why we're going to war.

We need leaders, honest leaders of any party at any level of government to answer, to act and to remember that they work for us.

Candace Owens is the host of "The Candace Owens Podcast," and she joins us now.

Candace, great to have you on the program.

As I mentioned, at any moment, the House could be called for Republicans. What do you think is a realistic expectations of anyone watching for potentially Republican leadership in the House?

CANDACE OWENS, POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: You know, I think, I probably feel like a lot of the American people do right now and I've become quite cynical in terms of leadership, both left and right. It seems that nobody really wants anything to change. A lot of people are looking for moments to pretend that they want things to change when they get the mic, but then behind the scenes, they are not actually doing anything to invoke those sorts of changes, and it makes you wonder why.

You know, why are we being told at the very same moment that we do have, in fact, a border -- an invasion happening at our border in the South, that we should instead care about what's happening on Ukrainian borders? And then, as you correctly mentioned, being gaslit and told that how dare you even ask the question? What's wrong with you? Why don't you care about Ukrainians before you care about Americans?

Here's the truth. I am very much in the belief that we should be an American First nation. We should always be concerned about America first. That just makes sense. There's no reason to make people seem like they're conspiracy theorists for saying that.

International liberalism has been a failure. The fact that we're even discussing nuclear war, the fact that we're even discussing World War Three is because somehow we got deluded in believing that what matters most is that we care about our influence, that we care that we're able to put military men via NATO on somebody else's border, and that we don't care at all about the many issues that are happening, chief among them being a fentanyl crisis, which you mentioned.

It is hard to imagine that even our politicians care about the fentanyl crisis when they are giving so much money and funding to the FDA, the CDC, all of these people that are working in cahoots with politicians to lock down American lives and to supply the market with more drugs whether that be via vaccines, the opioid crisis, which was created by manufacturers of drugs, and nobody is ever held accountable.

So I hate to say this, but no, I'm feeling quite cynical tonight in thinking that there's ever going to be any change. We don't even have political leaders that are willing to tell the truth for fear of being called, I don't

know, an election denier, an anti-vaxxer -- all of these words, as you've correctly mentioned that are used to smear us and to libel us when we're simply looking for truth.

CAIN: And why is that, Candace? Why is just asking the question, or why do we not even have a politician whether or not the Democrats when it comes to the Southern border, or even Republicans when it comes to potential war, make the case for us for how this does serve America first?

OWENS: I think the reason is because they're either A., fearful, as I mentioned, because they're being called names like they're in a second grade, "I'm so scared, I don't want to be called an election denier, I don't want to be called this or called that," and they're fearful. Or the second answer is that they're bought and paid for, right?

These people are accepting money from lobbyists. And they say, okay, I'll go along with this narrative and they are voting to line their own pockets in the end. And it brings into the question of whether or not lobbying should be even legal here. It's not legal over the United Kingdom where my husband is from. I always have that discussion.

And I think that the American people feel that when they talk about RINOs, people that are Republican In Name Only, but obviously have allegiances to many other things, not being the Americans first. And they gaslight their own people and talk trash to us and we say, you know what? We don't want to be involved in Ukrainian war. We don't want to give billions of dollars. You just told us that we were getting out of Afghanistan, which by the way, people should be held accountable -- you want to talk about what the House can do -- bring impeachment hearings.

Because if Donald Trump had gotten out of Afghanistan in the way that Joe Biden did, you better bet anything, that he will be facing an impeachment for probably the third time.

CAIN: Oh, no doubt about it. So, you point out there and we'll do this quickly together here, Candace. If Republicans take control of the House, there will be a long list potentially of priorities that we will watch to see if they do find accountability when it comes to, as you mentioned, Afghanistan or Hunter Biden's laptop scandal that could indict corruption at the highest levels of the American government, or as we'll talk about a little bit later tonight, this scandal with FTX.

What do you want to see, Candace, as a priority from the House of Representatives?

OWENS: Any of them. Anybody being held accountable, not just paper pushing, not just congressional hearings, not people just talking to us and saying, look, we're asking the tough questions. We don't want tough questions, we want tough answers.

CAIN: All right, Candace Owens, always great.

First time we have spoken together, but always great to hear from you, and glad to have you on the show tonight.

OWENS: Thank you so much.

CAIN: All right. I mentioned FTX. More coming up on that in just a moment. But a little bit earlier in the show, I mentioned Paul Pelosi.

Tonight, there's more confusion about what happened inside Nancy Pelosi's house on October 28th.

Now if you'll remember, that's when nudist -- a nudist named David DePape attacked Paul Pelosi with a hammer. Now, according to a Federal indictment by the Federal Department of Justice, police officers opened the door to Nancy Pelosi's home.

Now this is fascinating because it's in direct contradiction to the filings by San Francisco District Attorney and local law enforcement who say that no, in fact, Paul Pelosi opened the door.

An NBC News affiliate in the Bay Area just reported that according to law enforcement sources who saw bodycam footage, the DA is right, the DOJ is wrong. Paul Pelosi opened the door.

Now why is this important? Because asking for details or facts when it comes to the story have again been dismissed as a conspiracy, as an entire narrative that David DePape was an insurrectionist and a MAGA Republican was built. No questions that could get in the way of that narrative.

For example, this isn't the first time that NBC News contradicted the DOJ's narrative.

Earlier this month, NBC ran this report which stated that Paul Pelosi didn't think he was in danger when David DePape was in his home.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MIGUEL ALMAGUER, NBC NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Sources familiar with what unfolded in the Pelosi residence now revealing when officers responded to the high-priority call, they were seemingly unaware they'd been called to the home of the Speaker of the House.

After a knock-and-announce, the front door was opened by Mr. Pelosi, the 82-year-old did not immediately declare an emergency or tried to leave his home, but instead began walking several feet back into the foyer, toward the assailant and away from police.

Why Pelosi didn't try to flee or tell responding officers he was in distress is unclear.

We still don't know exactly what unfolded between Mr. Pelosi and the suspect for the 30 minutes they were alone inside that house before police arrived.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CAIN: Now that report by NBC News, that seems to at least be in part supported by the new investigative report from an NBC affiliate in the Bay Area was totally scrubbed from its website. They also suspended that reporter, Miguel Almaguer. He has not been heard from, no tweets, no appearances on television for almost two weeks.

NBC claims that Almaguer violated their standards. What standards were those?

See, no NBC reporters were ever suspended for the lies that they told in helping the Democratic Party. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KASIE HUNT, MSNBC: Right-wing media has been focused on Hunter Biden, his laptop that Intelligence officials have warned is likely Russian disinformation.

JASON JOHNSON, THEGRIO CONTRIBUTOR: The story is preposterous, right? The story is preposterous. So we are supposed to believe that Hunter Biden, in a drunken stupor, dropped off his laptop, in I guess, apparently QAnon repair office.

It is so obviously, a Russian operation.

JEREMY BASH, FORMER CHIEF OF STAFF, CIA AND DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE: This looks like Russian intelligence, this walks like Russian intelligence, this talks like Russian intelligence. This effort by Rudy Giuliani and "The New York Post" and Steve Bannon to cook up, supposed dirt on Joe Biden looks like a classic Russian playbook disinformation campaign.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CAIN: That -- all those lies, all of that misinformation was apparently up to NBC standards. This report that we now know or suggest is true below NBC standards.

You can see him on the screen. He is Buck Sexton. He is the host of "The Clay Travis and Buck Sexton Show," and he joins us now.

Buck is also a former CIA officer.

Buck, help me make sense of this. What's going on?

BUCK SEXTON, HOST, " THE CLAY TRAVIS AND BUCK SEXTON SHOW": Well, you know, Will, I think it's pretty straightforward. This is yet again, the American people being shown what the rules of so-called journalism are.

Liars get Pulitzers and truth-tellers get fired, or in this case suspended, because it's all about activism. It's all about support of the partisan narrative in the moment.

I mean, as a former Intelligence officer, watching those clips of people saying that the Hunter Biden laptop was Russian disinformation. There's not much left to the Intel Community these days in terms of reputation to protect, but they were certainly trying to destroy it there and they did a good job of it.

We see this time and time again, where even if eventually the truth comes out, there is no punishment. I mean, we didn't even get into Russia collusion, for example, where the entire Democratic line and

corporate media spent four years, they still say it's kind of true in some ways. You ask them how, they don't really ever explain it.

But Will, they understand that these are actually the rules. This is what we are dealing with. This is not a bug. This is a feature. This is the desire of the Democrats to use the biggest media outlets they possibly can to tell the most important lies, the biggest lies or even just suppress the truth in moments of peril for their power.

And we saw that with a Hunter Biden laptop -- and with the Nancy Pelosi story, I would just point out -- Paul Pelosi story -- the security situation alone is worthy of a serious deep dive.

How is it that this guy, if he was invited in or wasn't invited in was able to attack Nancy Pelosi's husband? The police response? All of this should be something that journalist want to know right away, but they are trying to slow walk this because they know that there was a story to tell at the time to help Democrats in an election and that was all that mattered.

CAIN: There was a story to tell: Are you referencing there, Buck, the entire narrative, this ornate narrative that was built upon a foundation that David DePape was a MAGA Republican, somehow, therefore this is connected to January 6th. That was the narrative that was built with very few facts to support it underneath. And now we understand that if you ask for facts, facts, which are now coming forward, to try to clarify what is the story, you're guilty of conspiracy.

No need to make an affirmative case, right? Simply questioning the facts makes you guilty of a conspiracy.

SEXTON: Yes, what you've seen here will is that they will actually weaponize the most basic principles of fact finding and what is supposedly journalism against people. You ask the question and you're the bad guy.

I mean, we just saw the horrific tragedy of Uvalde, for example, police initially were lying. The reports initially were entirely false and there was a reason for that, right? There were people who were trying to cover up for their entirely inadequate and honestly, awful response.

So in this instance, you just want to say, well, why can't we know the truth? If it's so straightforward? If it's such an obvious story? Why are there two law enforcement agencies that have different facts? That's just a reality.

They can say that it's QAnon or conspiracy or lunacy, but how about just the truth? But Will, we all know, they didn't want that before the election, and they're not going to want it on this issue for a long time.

CAIN: Someone is going to need to get that bodycam footage, the local DA and that local affiliate in San Francisco on the same page, because their facts are getting in the way of the previously built narrative.

Buck, always great to talk to you. Thanks for being with me tonight.

SEXTON: Thanks, my friend.

CAIN: All right, we told you, Joe Biden is currently at the Summit of world leaders. It's called the G20.

But there are other powerful individuals there, too. People like Bill Gates and Klaus Schwab. What are they up to? That's next?

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAIN: So the G20 is a Summit that is supposedly a gathering of world leaders, but there are a lot of people who aren't world leaders in attendance, at least in the traditional democratically-elected sense.

That would include self-appointed leaders like Microsoft founder, Bill Gates. Also by the way, Klaus Schwab. Who is Klaus Schwab? Well, he is the Founder/Chairman of the World Economic Forum.

And during COVID, Schwab well, he saw a big opportunity. Here is what he said, he wrote: "There is now a brief opportunity for global leaders to cooperate to achieve a Great Reset -- a step forward to a more resilient, cohesive, equitable and prosperous world."

Klaus Schwab, and I didn't really do the accent there, but Klaus Schwab still has not given up on that goal. Yesterday at the G20 in Bali, Schwab, again called for a new world order.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KLAUS SCHWAB, FOUNDER/CHAIRMAN, WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM: What we have to confront is a deep, systemic, and structural restructuring of our world. And this will take some time and the world would look differently after we have gone through this transition process.

Politically, so driving forces for this political transformation, of course, is to transition into a multi-polar world, which has a tendency to make our world much more fragmented.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CAIN: I know it's been said, but I can't get it out of my mind, and neither can you as we watch. I mean, that's the embodiment of a Bond villain, and nobody voted for this guy. So, why is he lecturing world leaders about his plans to transform the world? To have us all eat bugs, live in mini-houses, own nothing and be happy.

And while we're asking questions, why was his organization, the World Economic Forum, promoting FTX, the cryptocurrency exchange completely today engulfed in controversy? We'd like the answer to those questions. But of course, we'll never get them.

Speaking of FTX, "The New York Times" just put out a softball article on the whole situation. "The New York Times" in that article failed to mention fraud, well, of any kind. Instead, they described FTX's founder Sam Bankman-Fried as a selfless individual who made a few mistakes. Yes.

The article doesn't mention SBF as he is known -- his massive donations to the Democratic Party either. But some reporters are looking into this whole thing and one of them joins us now. It's Charlie Gasparino, who by the way has new information on SEC Chairman Gary Gensler's meeting with SBF before its collapse.

Charlie is a senior correspondent with FOX Business, and as I mentioned, he is with us here now, tonight.

So Charlie, what's your new reporting on this connection with SBF?

CHARLIE GASPARINO, FOX BUSINESS NETWORK SENIOR CORRESPONDENT: Well, he was pushing an SEC-approved crypto exchange something that other crypto exchanges, not even FTX has, the sort blanket approval of the SEC, the blessing of it, and it would have been a big business venture.

He was going to do it with another trader on Wall Street, a guy named Brad Katsuyama of IEX and, you know, I don't want to say that the SEC was poised to approve it, but they got pretty far off the -- they were going pretty fast, hard on this thing. And you know, they were having multiple meetings with the SEC even after the initial Gensler meeting in March.

So you know, I think one of the interesting things here and I guess the book on this guy is how did he hoodwink so many people? And I'm talking to him all the time. I mean, he talked -- he blew a blue streak of you know what constantly. He virtue signaled better than anybody else, you know, giving to charity, giving to the Democratic Party.

He hoodwinked journalists that he was a great, great investor when it was so odd that he was still, still given money, expanding his empire, even as crypto started to correct or massively correct.

You know, I kicked myself in the rear end not looking at that because that was a tell. You know, how does he give money to all these outfits when the whole crypto industry is getting crushed?

You know, where is he getting that money from? And now the question is, did he take it from investors that have a wallet -- that's how you trade crypto, you put a wallet on your exchange -- did he take that money and misappropriated it in other ventures?

And you know, this is a long process, and it's -- he could be the next Bernie Madoff. He could just be a dumb kid. He's 30 years old. One thing that I'm sure he is, he's not what he said he was. And you know, we did not question this enough.

Think about the campaign contributions he gave. Yes, he gave to Democrats. He often gave them to Democrats that were on Committees that had, you know, sort of regulatory oversight on crypto. So, it wasn't sort of altruistic, so to speak.

CAIN: Right.

GASPARINO: And you know, we opened a lot of doors with those donations. I can't imagine that his phone call to Gary Gensler, head of the SEC, I can't imagine that that wasn't in the back of Gary Gensler's mind knowing that he gave so much money out there to, even his boss, to Joe Biden.

CAIN: I don't know if it's criminal, it certainly seems criminal to take money from people's crypto wallets and appropriate it to your own ends. And it certainly looks like you're buying insurance policies with all these donations to politicians.

But one thing it was, as he lives in a brothel in the Bahamas, I believe essentially having fun with his friends while running this crypto exchange, is it shows the power of the fraud of virtue signaling.

He duped a lot of people who were probably willing to be duped here. And I'm not talking about on the consumer end. Those people are the victims. These politicians and venture capitalists were either willing or absolute rubes and getting duped.

GASPARINO: I mean, it is just really amazing that, you know, -- now, just in their defense. Apparently, he did show the books to people, okay. He did show the books. It is what was in those books that you know is going to come up, it is going to be questionable. So we'll know a little bit more in the weeks, maybe even days to come.

CAIN: Right.

GASPARINO: This is unfolding rapidly.

CAIN: Yes, and it promises to possibly domino across the economy.

GASPARINO: Absolutely.

CAIN: So we need to be paying attention to this story.

Charlie Gasparino, thank you for your time tonight.

GASPARINO: Anytime.

CAIN: All right, so a mob of unhinged trans activists descended on an event being organized for women to speak about gender ideology.

The women, the biological women were threatened and harassed. One of them joins us next to explain exactly what happened.

Also, we're monitoring the former President's event that is underway at Mar-a-Lago later this hour. We're going to bring you any news on that event as we get it.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAIN: Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, she continues to tackle the issues that matter most to her constituents. There is some drama tonight involving AOC, Ticketmaster, and Taylor Swift.

To unpack all of it, we are going to turn to Trace Gallagher.

Trace, what's going on?

TRACE GALLAGHER, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT: Hey, Will.

Long before Taylor Swift tickets went on sale today, a growing list of Democrats have been calling Live Nation-Ticketmaster a monopoly that needs to be broken up.

Of course, the irony here is that the Live Nation-Ticketmaster merger was approved by the Obama DOJ back in 2010, and it was applauded by some of music's biggest stars like Eddie Van Halen and the members of the band, Journey.

And since then, the stories attacking the merger have mostly been relegated to "Rolling Stone," "Hollywood Reporter," and technology websites until a few hours ago when Taylor Swift tickets went on sale and every media and social media outlet quickly realized the Ticketmaster System could not handle demand and proceeded to have an epic fail.

The fans were outraged, and as you mentioned, so was representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez who tweeted quoting, "Daily reminder that Ticketmaster is a monopoly. Its merger with Live Nation should never have been approved, and they need to be reined in. Break them up."

Other Democrats also jumped on board and so far we really can't find anyone defending or disputing today's ticket fiasco. We haven't seen gridlock and confusion like this since really Arizona, Nevada, and California started counting ballots.

Bottom line: Live Nation-Ticketmaster, is the elephant in the arena. Live Nation owns several hundred venues and manages more than 500 music stars. So, it has the power to demand that venues who want to host concerts, use Ticketmaster exclusively.

Finally, those who are hoping to buy tickets were told you can try again tomorrow, as long as you have a credit card, mother's maiden name, and can prove you are not a robot. We'll have more on this on "FOX News at Night" - - Will.

CAIN: Let's see if AOC can spurn action and fix Live Nation before our election system can return results in under a week, which comes first? You find out tonight with Trace Gallagher, every weekday at midnight Eastern hosting "FOX NEWS @ NIGHT."

Thank you, Trace.

A new tour called Let Women Speak is intended to give women an opportunity to speak about gender ideology. Yesterday, the event arrived in New York City. It was near City Hall in Manhattan and very quickly, trans activists descended on the event and began threatening the attendees.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: You better get clear of these [bleep] Cause I'm going to beat your ass. I'm beat your ass, [bleep]. I'm going to beat your ass. I am going to beat your ass. Yes, I will. I will. These hands do not discriminate. This hands do not discriminate. I will [bleep] you up.

These [bleep] are more real than you would ever be, [bleep]. I've got body. No man wants you. No man wants you.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CAIN: I'd love to ask the producers of the show why one individual's chest was blurred and the other's was not? I can't figure out the distinguishing factor.

The police in this incident say nine people were arrested at the event. And Jeanna Hoch is a pro-female activist. She was among the attendees who were threatened in that video you just saw. She was on the other side of those threats and she joins us now.

Jeanna, thanks for being with me tonight. What did that feel like in the moment? What was happening? What was the energy around that event?

JEANNA HOCH, PRO-FEMALE ACTIVIST: Danger. That was the energy around that event. It was very high energy. It was -- it was not good. I don't think I expected it to be that bad.

Obviously, we were threatened. Women were assaulted. Police were assaulted. I can't believe actually how much abuse they put up with and it is upsetting to see the spin in the newspaper that it was either an equal fight or that the police were being brutal against people because that was not the case at all.

CAIN: Tell me what your organization is, I assume on the other side of this incident, peacefully protesting. What are you hoping to highlight?

HOCH: I came out to join the Let Women Speak tour this last couple of weeks because I wanted to exercise my right to free speech with other women. We came out as, again to be peaceful, and talk about the harms of trans ideology. That is all across the board politically, you know, all ages, all abilities, education, everything, and we're joining together because we know what is happening and we want people to know, we want to go to the streets and talk to anybody who is passing by and who will listen.

CAIN: It's almost as though the individuals there in the video that we're seeing on the side of the screen were intent on proving your point. Your event is Let Women Speak, and now you have these men dressed up as women attempting to shout you down at the very least, shout you down.

HOCH: Absolutely, this is a record of our dissent, and they are doing the work for us. They always come out, they show themselves to be everything that we say is the reason that we do not want these people -- these men, these violent men for the most part in our spaces intended for women and girls.

CAIN: And as you travel the country, I'm just curious, what has been your sense of safety? Was this a particularly bad incident in New York? Or have you been met with this type of reaction all across America?

HOCH: All across America. I attended San Francisco, Portland, Seattle was canceled due to threats of violence -- credible threats of violence. We were attacked in Tacoma, and obviously yesterday in New York

City, there were security guards hired for Austin, Chicago, DC. Arrests made in Tacoma, Washington, DC, and New York City.

CAIN: What a wild situation today, this right here is controversial that you standing up for women, what used to be the embodiment of feminism today is now called bigotry. What a fascinating and sad moment of American history.

HOCH: Absolutely.

CAIN: Jeanna, thank you for sharing your story with us tonight.

HOCH: Yes. Thank you so much for having me on.

CAIN: You bet.

All right, there is a wild phenomenon happening across America and nobody is covering it. Livestock are dying in explicable numbers, and with inexplicable deaths. We'll talk to one of the leading individuals who has been investigating that, next.

Plus, Donald Trump has apparently just filed the paperwork to run for President in 2024, just moments before his Mar-a-Lago event is set to begin, we're monitoring that event here for you.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAIN: This is a FOX News Alert. Our job is to report the news to you as it happens and it is happening. Donald Trump has apparently just filed Federal Election Commission paperwork to seek the presidency in 2024. That's according to latest reports. He is expected to make this announcement just moments from now at his Mar-a-Lago home in Palm Beach, Florida. You'll be able to watch that right here on the FOX News Channel in just moments. We'll keep monitoring this event for you until that time.

All right, Joe Biden flew all the way to Asia to meet with world leaders. It hasn't gone very well. Tonight, Joe Biden held a roundtable with G20 leaders. He looked dazed and confused throughout the event.

He also refused to answer a question about the apparent rocket attack in Poland, then the video feed went down.

And last night, Joe Biden bailed on the G20 gala dinner. He went back to his hotel room, we still have no idea why exactly he did that. According to the White House: "The President had just spent a full day of meetings and needed to attend to a few items tonight." I wonder what items needed attending to? They didn't say.

So where the heck is Joe Biden and what is wrong with him? There's a lot going on in the world tonight. We'd like to know. We'll stay on this story and let you know when we find out.

All right, you may remember Chris O'Brien from our documentary on cattle mutilations. It's been are the new documentary "Tucker Carlson Originals" "Cattle Mutilations."

What he had to say was so fascinating, we had to invite him back for another hour for an episode of "Tucker Carlson Today" and here is part.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CHRIS O'BRIEN, AUTHOR: People say it's aliens coming down to gather genetic material to hybridize their dying race, which is very popular, I think kind of a misconception. The first thing I say is why don't they go into an abattoir or a slaughterhouse.

TUCKER CARLSON, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST, "TUCKER CARLSON TONIGHT": Right.

O'BRIEN: There are gallons and gallons of genetic material. Why are they sneaking around in the pastures of the Western world, you know mutilating cattle? It doesn't make sense. So, there is something going on, that I think is environmentally oriented. I think it is where the cattle are actually grazing in the environment, that's the thing that is being tested, animals that had impossible, physical, no abnormal condition of the animal.

That was about 60 of the 200 cases. Forty, to be on the safe side, and then out of that, I had eight or nine that we just could not explain with, you know, forensic science.

The spinal cords excised, the unborn calves mutilated in the womb, brains taken out with no disturbing of the dura the thin film that surrounds the brain. It's impossible to take a brain out and leave the dura intact, unless you liquefy it and suck it out or something, I don't know.

So 160, equivocal, you know, probably some of them are scavenger action. And, you know, if a rancher is reading that there are mutilations being reported, possibly in his region, then he might look at a dead cow little differently.

There's usually no tracks. There's no physical evidence, crime scene evidence that say -- the original case that we talked about Snippy was found a hundred feet from her tracks. And you know, all the flesh was taken from the shoulders to the tip of the nose. The bones were all bleached white in only overnight, like they'd been out in the sun for -- in the desert for 30 years.

There were strange pod marks. There was like this chicken gizzard type thing on a branch near the body, and the owner of the horse kind of poked it with a twig and then all of a sudden their hand developed like a battery acid burn on it.

So there was some weird -- there was some weird .

CARLSON: How could the horse be found a distance from its own tracks?

O'BRIEN: It was obviously lifted up and dropped.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CAIN: The value of curiosity and actual journalism. You can watch that episode tomorrow on FOX Nation.

Meanwhile, we're still monitoring former President Trump this hour. He is at Mar-a-Lago. You can see the crowd gathering there for a big announcement. That's coming up next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAIN: This is a FOX News Alert: FOX News has now just confirmed that Donald Trump has officially filed paperwork to run for President in 2024. That happened just moments ago right before Joe Biden took the podium in Bali, Indonesia to answer questions about the missile strikes that hit Poland earlier today.

Joe Biden says the United States will continue to investigate that attack and you will hear from former President Donald Trump in just moments.

Now, a few weeks ago, a "Rolling Stone" reporter labeled John Fetterman 's wife, Gisele, the de facto candidate in Pennsylvania, and Joe Biden said she'd make a great, great lady in the Senate.

Now John Fetterman has won his race somehow, and as expected, his wife is hogging the spotlight. She has uploaded this photo of herself at a dinner party with Pennsylvania Senator Bob Casey. You'll notice that half of John Fetterman's face is cropped out.

And then today, Gisele uploaded this picture, outside of John Fetterman's Senate office, this time, half his body was cropped out.

In fairness, at least he is wearing a suit and not a hoodie and basketball shorts, but still, Gisele takes center stage, which, of course, was the plan here all along.

Tonight, I want to ask you to please check out the brand new episode of "The Will Cain Podcast." It's out right now. In it, you can go download at FOX News Podcast, Apple, or Spotify.

We break down the FTX crypto scandal, what it's all about, what it means for not just crypto, but for politics, donations to Democrats, potential -- potential -- and the need for investigation into money laundering through Ukraine and how it could affect the economy at large.

Go get that wherever you get your podcasts.

All right, that's going to do it. That's about it for us here at TUCKER CARLSON TONIGHT.

But you can check out the show each night, 8:00 PM Eastern Time, because it is the show that is the sworn enemy of lying, pomposity, smugness, and groupthink.

Tucker Carlson will be back in this seat tomorrow.

Coming up now though is the Great Sean Hannity with a big, big announcement this evening as we are set to hear from former President Donald Trump.

SEAN HANNITY, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST, "HANNITY": I don't have an announcement.

CAIN: You don't, that's okay, that's fair.

HANNITY: I am not making -- all right, I am running for President. No, I am not. Just kidding.

All right, Will, thank you. Great job.

END

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HD **Ballot Counting Efforts Press Forward In Arizona; Catherine Cortez Masto And Adam Laxalt Race Too Close To Call; Rep. Kevin McCarthy Expresses Confidence Amid Possible Challenge; Fallout From **FTX** Bankruptcy; Seasoned Pollsters Analyze Midterm Results; Polling Accuracy Concerns After "Red Wave" Predictions; Analysts Examine Reasons Republican Party's Midterm Elections Performance Weaker Than Expected; President Biden To Meet With Chinese President Xi Jinping During Climate Conference In Egypt; Man Meets Former POW Whose Name He Had On Bracelet During Vietnam War; Former President Trump Criticizes Florida Governor Ron DeSantis And Virginia Governor Glenn Youngkin; House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy May Have To Make Concessions To Republican Freedom Caucus To Gain Votes For Speakership In New Congress**

BY Bret Baier, Alicia Acuna, Jacqui Heinrich, Chad Pergram, Mike Tobin, Lucas Tomlinson, Kellyanne Conway, Mark Penn, Jennifer Griffin

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LP

HAROLD FORD JR., FOX NEWS CHANNEL CONTRIBUTOR: Happy Veterans Day to every veteran.

JEANINE PIRRO, FOX NEWS CHANNEL LEGAL ANALYST: Thank you.

TD

DANA PERINO, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Beautiful.

PIRRO: That was beautiful.

FORD JR.: It was.

PIRRO: OK. That's the end of the show everybody.

GREG GUTFELD, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Is it really? I think we have five seconds.

PIRRO: We'll see you back here on Monday. Have a great weekend. Enjoy the game well.

BRET BAIER, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Good evening. Welcome to Washington. I'm Bret Baier.

Breaking tonight, we are inching closer to knowing which party will be in control of the House and the Senate for the next session of Congress here in Washington.

But three days after the voting, final results are still not in for a handful of key midterm races. We have Fox team coverage tonight, Jonathan Hunt has the latest on the Nevada Senate race from Las Vegas, but we begin with Senior Correspondent Alicia Acuna and two big contests in Arizona. Good evening, Alicia.

ALICIA ACUNA, FOX NEWS CHANNEL SENIOR CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Good evening, Bret. In a call with reporters, members of Republican Arizona hopeful Blake Masters campaign say they are confident that this next batch of results and those that follow will provide a path to victory.

Now, right now, Masters trails Democrat incumbent Senator Mark Kelly by more than 115,000 votes. We haven't heard much from Kelly but Masters is counting on those early ballots that were dropped off on Election Day to get him across the finish line.

Here's what's left to count, across the state more than 516,000 the bulk of which is in Maricopa County with more than 500 -- with more than 353,000 Republican candidate for governor. Kari Lake says her win is in that number.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KARI LAKE (R), GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE OF ARIZONA: Whatever they're gaining is very minimal compared to what we stand to gain when they get to that huge chunk of votes that are -- that's our base, that's the people. And think about it, these are the people who don't trust the way the elections are operating.

ACUNA (voice over): Lake's race against Democrat Katie Hobbs remains very tight. Hobbs, who is also Secretary of State tweeting: This election will be determined by the voters, not by the volume at which an unhinged former television reporter can shout conspiracy theories.

Critics have hit Maricopa County Elections Division for the pace at the county. Officials say compared to 2020, they had an unexpected 70 percent increase in early ballots dropped off on Election Day. And this is a function of state law.

STEPHEN RICHER RECORDER, MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA: Maricopa County doesn't set the rules. The rules are set by state statute and state statute does allow you to drop off that early ballot until 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.

So, whether or not that should be changed will be left to the determination of the state legislature.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

ACUNA (on camera): And tonight's batch for Maricopa County will include votes that came in and were walked in those early ballots on Election Day. Those are expected at 8:00 p.m. local time. 10:00 p.m. Eastern but you know, the state of Nevada also waiting on results right now. And that's where we find my friend and colleague Chief Correspondent Jonathan Hunt in Las Vegas, Jonathan.

JONATHAN HUNT, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CHIEF CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Good evening, Alicia. Republican challenger Adam Laxalt still leads here in Nevada, but that lead over Democratic incumbent Senator Catherine Cortez Masto is shrinking.

And as we await new numbers in the next few hours from Northern Nevada and from here in Las Vegas, it would be a gamble at this stage to put it all on red. But the Laxalt team appears willing to make that bet.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ADAM LAXALT (R), SENATORIAL CANDIDATE OF NEVADA: We're going to win this thing hopefully and the important race for the country in my great state.

HUNT (voice over): A bold prediction from Adam Laxalt in the crucial Nevada Senate race as he hangs on to a slim lead over Democratic Senator Catherine Cortez Masto, who has not granted any interviews since Election Day.

The counting continues most significantly in Washoe County, Northern Nevada, and Democrat heavy Clark County in the south, home to Las Vegas and 75 percent of the state's population.

The Clark County Registrar has suggested the vast majority of votes will be counted by the end of Saturday.

JOE GLORIA, CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA REGISTRAR: We're not purposely holding this process back. We're doing everything in our power to move ballot forward just as quickly as we can. But the statutory deadlines that we have in place, I can't do finish all the mail until it all comes in.

HUNT: But if the margin is still close after the last mail-in and dropbox ballots are counted, then provisional ballots and so-called cured ballots, those for instance where voters are given the chance to correct a mismatch signature will come into play.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HUNT (on camera): And if that happens, we could be waiting until the middle of next week for a final result, Bret.

BAIER: Thanks, Jonathan.

With those two Senate races in Nevada and Arizona still undecided and a runoff election December 6th in Georgia, balance of power in the Senate remains the same, 49 for Republicans, 48 for Democrats.

Now, as Jonathan mentioned, Democrat incumbent out in Nevada Senator Cortes Masto -- Catherine Cortez Masto has made some gains on Republican Adam Laxalt 's narrow lead.

If we look at the House races in Nevada, district two Republican Mark Amodei is the only Republican incumbent there to secure his seat so far.

Incumbent Democrats are ahead in all three of the contest, too close to call at this time. We go back to the Senate map, we can tell you that each of the three uncalled House districts holds a piece of that blue region, the Clark County region.

If we now go back to the Senate map and we go next door to Arizona. In Arizona Maricopa County, election officials continue to count ballots there. It's hard to predict if those votes will help boost Republican Blake Masters make up this difference with Democratic incumbent Senator Mark Kelly.

If we look at the House races there, eight of Arizona's nine congressional districts hold a portion of Maricopa County. And if we look at where the House races there are, we're seeing similar results to Nevada, close results.

Democrats won or are ahead in four races, Republicans have won four including Arizona 2, and that was called late Thursday night.

Republican Eli Crane flipped that seat, ousting incumbent Congressman Democrat Tom O'Halleran .

Now, the big picture here in the House, we have 211 seats for the Republicans, 196 for Democrats, 28 seats are in place still. 218 is the magic number for the majority.

Maine in New York each have a seat to close to call. Moving west you've got Alaska's at large districts still undecided. Washington has one seat uncalled, both Oregon and Colorado have two close contests.

If we look at Colorado and we go into there, it includes Colorado district three. That's Republican Lauren Boebert 's seat, she was behind Democrat Adam Frisch Thursday, but late votes have given her the lead in Colorado's Third District.

If we go back out and we go further west to California, it could determine which party wins the majority, all the way in California and those votes are coming in slow. 14 races there could still swing either direction.

A California 20 is Kevin McCarthy's district to easily won reelection in the 20th district. But if Republicans take control of the House as is expected, there really could be a messy path ahead for him as he makes his case to be the next House speaker.

Here's Congressional Correspondent Chad Pergram.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CHAD PERGRAM, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENT (voice over): Kevin McCarthy brims with confidence that he is the next Speaker of the House.

REP. KEVIN MCCARTHY (R-CA): Look, I'm not concerned. Think about this, since I've been leader for the last four years, we've only gained seats. It's the goal of winning the majority. We won the majority.

PERGRAM: But McCarthy's success hinges on the math. McCarthy's mathematical equation for the speakership may not work in a narrow majority.

REP. BOB GOOD (R-VA): All across the country, Republican voters continue to tell me and other members of Congress and candidates that they don't support Kevin McCarthy because he's not a true conservative and they want someone who will fight.

PERGRAM: Bob Good is one of a handful of House Republicans who Fox has told me not back McCarthy under any circumstances.

BRENDAN BUCK, FORMER AIDE TO SPEAKER RYAN: This has very little to do with Kevin McCarthy. What this is, is a pure power play by a few members who want to have a leverage.

PERGRAM: It wasn't that long ago that McCarthy loyalists thought that he would cruise to the speakership.

REP. FRENCH HILL (R-AK): I have confidence that Kevin McCarthy will pull together a coalition and be elected leader of the House for the Republicans and then Speaker of the House.

PERGRAM: For months, McCarthy predicted a red wave.

MCCARTHY: If we win 18 seats, that's equal to 1994. If we win 33 seats, that could be the largest in like 90 some years.

PERGRAM: The House hasn't taken a second ballot for speaker in nearly a century. The body is paralyzed until it elects a speaker.

BUCK: They may need to grind this out over a number of days, and it could become a staring contest.

PERGRAM: On the Democratic side, House Speaker Nancy Pelosi was mum about her future plans before leaving for a climate conference in Egypt.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PERGRAM (on camera): It might take a while to pick a speaker, in fact, it took two months in 1856.

Plus, there is a push by conservative senators to postpone GOP leadership elections until after the Georgia Senate runoff, Bret.

BAIER: Chad Pergram up on the Hill. Chad, thanks.

Colorado voters have passed a ballot initiative to decriminalize psychedelic mushrooms for people 21 and older. The measure would create state regulated healing centers where patients can experience the drug under supervision.

Colorado becomes the second state after Oregon to vote to establish a regulated system for hallucinogens found in some mushrooms. The initiative will allow an advisory board to add other plant based psychedelic drugs to the program later.

Stocks were up today, the Dow gained 32, the S&P 500 finished ahead 37, the NASDAQ rose 209.

For the week, the Dow surged 4.15 percentage points. The S&P 500 jumped almost six, the NASDAQ was up more than eight.

Up next, President Biden wants the head of the Customs and Border Protection gone. But he does not want to go, we'll bring you that story.

First, here's what some of our Fox affiliates around the country are covering tonight. Fox 5 in New York as New York City Mayor Eric Adams announces the city is closing the tent shelter on Randall's Island. Built to house asylum seekers.

A new humanitarian relief center with 600 rooms will open at the Watson Hotel in Midtown Manhattan. The mayor is again asking for state and federal assistance to deal with the immigrants, many of whom were bused to the city from the southern border.

WFXT in Boston, our affiliate there, as a deadly listeria outbreak is linked to deli meats hotdogs and cheeses sold in Massachusetts and five other states.

The CDC says the food has sickened 16 people so far, claiming the life of one person and leaving 13 others hospitalized.

And this is a live look at Lake Tahoe from Fox 11 our affiliate out there. One of the big stories there tonight, several areas ski resorts are open for the season this weekend. Recent snowfall out there in the mountains has made it possible for resorts to open ahead of schedule.

That is tonight's live look outside the Beltway from SPECIAL REPORT. Gorgeous look. We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BAIER: "BREAKING TONIGHT", the head of U.S. Customs and Border Protection is being forced out of his job. Chris Magnus has led the nation's largest law enforcement agency for less than a year.

Senior correspondent Mike Tobin tells us Magnus is not going anywhere quietly. Good evening, Mike.

MIKE TOBIN , FOX NEWS CHANNEL SENIOR CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Good evening, Bret.

And is really not a surprise that Customs and Border Protection Commissioner Chris Magnus is being forced out in this first shake up since the midterm elections.

TOBIN (voice over): Even though he's been on the job for less than a year, there has been growing tension with his agency and agencies like ICE.

Now, we can show you fresh video of a group crossing the Rio Grande in swift current. And the reason we can show you fresh video is because these border crossings are constant.

Chaos at the border was an important issue and a troublesome issue in the midterm elections.

Also, with fentanyl coming across the border, a recent seizure of 145,000 fentanyl pills in Nogales, Arizona. Security at the border impacts the entire nation.

Crossings are up 37 percent from last year and double the rate when Trump was in office. So, that all comes back to Magnus as his accountability even his management style are called into question.

Now, Magnus has been defiant. He says he won't resign. A statement released today reads in part, "I didn't take this job as a resume builder. I came to Washington, D.C., moved my family here because I care about this agency, its mission, and the goals of this administration."

TOBIN (on camera): So, with the midterms out of the way, Homeland Secretary -- Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas approached him, Fox News has confirmed, and gave him that ultimatum. Resign or be fired.

We reached out to Mayorkas' office, nothing back yet. Bret?

BAIER: Mike Tobin, Eagle Pass, Texas. Mike, thanks.

The Biden administration web site for Americans seeking forgiveness of their student loan debt is no longer taking applications.

Yesterday, a federal judge in Texas blocked the president's plan to eliminate student loan debt for millions of Americans.

The judge criticized the president's unilateral decision, saying the country is not ruled by what he called an all-powerful executive with a pen and a phone.

Program was already on hold while a federal appeals court considers a separate lawsuit by six states challenging it.

President Biden is extending the public health emergency status of the COVID-19 pandemic. This coming in just minutes ago. This allows millions of Americans to still receive free tests, vaccines, and treatments until at least April of next year.

It comes less than two months after the president said publicly the pandemic was over.

The third largest cryptocurrency exchange in the world is seeking bankruptcy protection tonight.

The founder and CEO of FTX, a prominent democratic donor is believed to have lost virtually all of his \$23 billion fortune.

Lucas Tomlinson is here with details tonight. Good evening, Lucas.

LUCAS TOMLINSON, FOX NEWS CHANNEL PENTAGON CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Good evening, Bret.

You remember that tulip craze in Holland in the 1600s? Experts say this is very similar like at the dot-com bust and it's taking down some high profile names with it, including the second biggest democratic donor during this year's midterm campaign season behind George Soros.

TOMLINSON (voice over): The cryptocurrency exchange FTX is one of the biggest players in the industry. Its CEO, Sam Bankman-Fried one of the richest self-made billionaires in the planet has just resigned.

His company filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy earlier today. Bankman-Fried gave some \$40 million to Democratic candidates during the midterms. And he donated more than \$5 million to Joe Biden's presidential campaign in 2020.

FTX had a Superbowl ad, starring comedian Larry David. And had signed many high-profile celebrities like Tom Brady, Gisele Bündchen and Steph Curry.

It's not clear what will become of the FTX Miami Arena, home to the NBA's Miami Heat. There is a \$5.5 million payment due in January.

Cryptocurrency is a digital currency. Some say it's more like a casino. Many lawmakers viewed as a commodity like gold or pork bellies, but many have warned crypto is unregulated and dangerous, Bret.

Maxine Waters , the democratic chairwoman of the House Financial Services Committee and reported friend of Bankman-Fried says, "It is clear that there are major consequences when cryptocurrency entities operate without robust federal oversight and protections for customers."

TOMLINSON (on camera): Bankman-Fried's assets have dropped from \$16 billion down to zero in recent days. He's worth more than \$26 billion just a few months ago, Bret.

BAIER: It's tough to watch that one.

OK, Lucas --

(CROSSTALK)

TOMLINSON: I don't think it's been pit to go many tabs.

BAIER: Yes.

TOMLINSON: A little slow to the hip.

BAIER: Exactly. All right. Thank you.

Well, up next, analysis of the midterm elections from pollsters Kellyanne Conway and Mark Penn . Where we are right now.

BAIER (voice over): First, "BEYOND OUR BORDERS" tonight, Ukraine's president says special military units have entered the city of Kherson.

This morning, Russian forces completed their withdrawal from the country's only Russian occupied provincial capital.

French President Emmanuel Macron places a wreath on the tomb of the Unknown Soldier under the Arc de Triomphe to mark Armistice Day. In France, it's the anniversary of the November 11th, 1918 truce that brought an end to the First World War.

And this is a live look at Jerusalem. One of the big stories there tonight, Israel's president asked former Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to form a new government. Netanyahu was the winner of last week's national election in Israel, the fifth in four years.

Netanyahu will have one month to assemble a governing coalition with a majority in parliament.

Just some of the other stories "BEYOND OUR BORDERS" tonight. We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CHARLES KRAUTHAMMER , FORMER FOX NEWS CHANNEL POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: I'm not sure I believe that the polls, you'll give me the power to ask the question the way I want. I'll give you whatever response you would like.

BAIER (on camera): Like the election, is there a disconnect that the polls are not showing?

KRAUTHAMMER: While the polls aren't God as we learned in 2016.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER Our late colleague, Dr. Charles Krauthammer , we missed his voice.

I want to bring in two more voices looking at the election, pair of pollsters to talk about the results. Joining us tonight, Kellyanne Conway and Mark Penn .

Kellyanne, let me start with you. We've had a couple of days to digest, even as this is going on. What -- what's your takeaway now?

KELLYANNE CONWAY, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CONTRIBUTOR (on camera): There are few takeaways. First of all, the Independents are really key to the Democrat stopping, and otherwise red wave.

In the previous four midterm elections, Bret, Independents broke for the party out of power by double digits, and over 50 percent.

This time, according to the exit polls, the Independents favored Democrats, 49 to 47, narrowly, but just enough, I think to push over in a couple of these races.

The other thing is the youth vote favored, 18 to 29-year-old favored Democrats by 28 points.

You look at a place like Michigan, where Gretchen Whitmer was not punished for locking down Gen Z during COVID and beyond. But they were animated because Act Three was on the ballot.

You had -- you have reports of students at Michigan, Michigan States sitting in the cold with coats and blankets to vote on the abortion referendum.

We got our clock cleaned in Michigan State legislative races lost. But I'm really happy for the Republicans. I think this was a transitional election where the transformative one, we will have majority control in the House, possibly the Senate, or we'll get back to 50-50 maybe.

The Democrats spent a lot of money and honestly didn't have much of a message except to scare people. Democracy is on the ballot. Biden wasn't, but he would be next time. I think the great -- best thing for Republicans coming out in addition to majority control in the House is that Joe Biden said he would change, "nothing". And you know, he is running in 2024. That's great for us.

BAIER: With this, Mark, is the best a president has done in the midterms since George W. Bush . Your thoughts a couple of days out now as you're digesting all of this. Did pollsters take overcorrect, thinking that there was an undercount for Republicans?

MARK PENN , FOX NEWS CHANNEL CONTRIBUTOR (on camera): Well, I think, look the polls showed pretty much that it was going to be a closely divided race, and I think they were, particularly, some exuberant polls, maybe in the last week -- particularly, a Trafalgar polls.

But we had been running 50-50 in the congressional race. And I wrote in The Wall Street Journal over the summer. I said, you know, there's a lot of people here who don't like Joe Biden , who voted Democratic, who are sticking with the Democrats.

And I think that's what happened here. I think that the argument about threat to democracy became a code for Trump. I think Trump was on the ballot. I think both Trump and Biden have negatives of 56-57 percent. I think the voters didn't like either of them. And I think fear of Trump kept people who voted Democratic on the Democratic side.

I also think the Democrats did really well with the mail-in ballots. I think that unless Republicans learn how to get their voters to mail it in, that more people drop off, whether or not they think they are going to go to the polls, then mail it in. And if they are going to lose mail-in ballots 60-40, and mail-in ballots are here to stay, they are going to lose a lot of elections where Democrats are going to have an exceptionally good turnout, particularly with young people.

BAIER: Well, that's right.

PENN: It played out as well, keeping more women and independents on the Democratic column than people thought.

BAIER: Right. Republicans have Election Day. It seems that Democrats have election four weeks, five weeks, yes.

Let me just look at a couple polls here, the RCP average, Real Clear Politics average going in in Nevada had Laxalt at 48.8, Cortez Masto 45.4. Now we see where that is today as the counting continues in Nevada. It's 49-48 roughly in the real vote as the total is come in. Arizona, masters at 48.3 in the average of polls to 48. And that in the real vote is 51.7 to 46.1. Are you surprised as you tick down, that's the trend that you see about the polls.

KELLYANNE CONWAY, FORMER SENIOR COUNSELOR TO PRESIDENT TRUMP: Well, Arizona may be a little. We'll see what happens in the governor's race. And you saw, Bret, how strong governors really were able to pull across some of these down ballot races. And the opposite was also true. Mastriano in Pennsylvania hurt Oz. I don't think Oz's closing message at the podium on election night, bringing balance to Washington, is very compelling to your base. The Democrats are out there turning out the base late in the game. And we already have balance in Washington. That's the problem. It's 50-50. So I don't know that that was a compelling message.

But look, I'm very pleased at the realignment going on for the Republican Party. It looks durable and permanent in some ways. The FOX News voter analysis across the country showed a 15-point swing among African American voters, Hispanic voters, the 13 points being among white suburban female voters.

These are big -- six points up among Jewish American voters. This is big because those tend to be durable. And states that Obama carried twice, Florida, Ohio, Iowa, are now solidly red. The Democrats won't win those back in 2024.

BAIER: Mark, quickly, the next map does not set up well for Democrats, the next election, but your thoughts as you kind of come to the end of this one?

PENN: Well, I think as we think forward, the Republican Party, even if they get across the finish line here and win the House or not, I think they are about to have a war that is going to dominate politics between Trump, between DeSantis, between McCarthy, between the Freedom Caucus, oh my God. Whereas I think the Democratic Party is going to be more united. I think -- I didn't think Joe Biden would run for president. I think he is after this going to try to run for president, and we're going to see, you know, how far he makes it. He certainly gets a lot more support from Democrats. It's a much more unified, satisfied party coming out of this election than people expected.

BAIER: I will say Sean Patrick Maloney and AOC exchanged some barbs today. Mark, Kellyanne, thank you very much.

President Biden spoke early today in Egypt to a global summit on climate change. He is now on his way to Cambodia for another summit and a meeting with Chinese leader Xi Jinping . But he is still getting questions about the midterms. White House correspondent Peter Doocy is traveling with the president in Cambodia, now.

(BEGIN VIDEO TAPE)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Can you keep the House, Mr. President?

JOE BIDEN , (D) PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: Well, you know, it's still alive. It's still alive. It's like drawing an inside straight, but it's still alive.

PETER DOOCY, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: The president who insisted before Tuesday these midterms would not be a referendum on him says the results validate him.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: What in the next two years do you intend to do differently?

BIDEN: Nothing.

DOOCY: That includes his economic plan, which he outlined along with a pledge to meet ambitious emissions goals by 2030 at the COP 27 climate change conference in Egypt.

BIDEN: We're proving a good climate policy is good economic policy.

DOOCY: President Biden and Russian President Putin were invited to some of the same meetings in Asia this week, but Putin won't show. Instead, this trip's marquee one-on-one will be with Biden and China's Xi Jinping .

MIKE GALLAGHER , (R-WI) HOUSE INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE: Well, I hope that President Biden takes advantage of this opportunity to really press Xi Jinping publicly. Deterring the PLA from invading Taiwan within the next two years is really our most urgent national security challenge.

DOOCY: The White House press secretary says the leaders will discuss efforts to maintain and deepen lines of communication between the United States and the People's Republic of China. But lines of communication go back decades. President Biden just boasted about this on the campaign trail.

BIDEN: I spent a lot of time, more time with Xi Jinping than any other head of state.

DOOCY: It's not clear what all that time got him or the U.S.

So, is there going to become a time where you might call him, old friend to old friend --

BIDEN: Let's get something straight. We know each other well. We're not old friends. It's just pure business.

(END VIDEO TAPE)

DOOCY (on camera): This is the rare major international summit -- this is the rare host city, I should say, for a major international summit where cars are outnumbered by motorbikes and cabs called tuk-tuks. And as the security footprint increased here ahead of the summit and leaders arriving, some locals grew concerned by all that security. So there's an item in the local paper, an English copy of the local paper

where they try to calm some of those nerves. Right here on page four it says "Government rejects rumor U.S. security forces will shoot onlookers." They reject that. Bret?

BAIER: Peter Doocy traveling with the president in Cambodia. Peter, thank you.

Up next, a Veterans Day story you really want to see featuring one of our own FOX News employees and his connection to a former prisoner of war.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BAIER: Happy Veterans Day. Golf legend Jack Nicklaus surprised some military heroes with a golf lesson to celebrate Veterans Day. The 18-time Major champion invited veterans to the Bear's Club, a course he designed in Florida, a part of south Florida's PGA Hope program which introduces veterans with disabilities to the game of golf. It's the military portion of the PGA's charitable foundation PGA Reach.

On this Veterans Day, we honor those who have put their lives on the line for this country. This evening a personal tale from the FOX family. One of our own connects with a former prisoner of war from the Vietnam era. It's an amazing story. Chief national security correspondent Jennifer Griffin has it.

(BEGIN VIDEO TAPE)

JENNIFER GRIFFIN, FOX NEWS NATIONAL SECURITY CORRESPONDENT: As war raged in Vietnam, a quiet effort started by two sorority sisters to show support for the POW and MIAs who were shot down in rice patty fields took off across America. Students began wearing bracelets with the name of an American POW and the date they were shot down. Stars like John Wayne, Princess Grace, and Sonny and Cher wore them. FOX News editor Brad Paxton was one of those kids who sent his \$2.50 away to purchase a bracelet.

BRAD PAXTON, FOX NEWS EDITOR: This is actually a photo of me wearing the bracelet. I had lots of hair back then.

GRIFFIN: His bracelet honored Navy Lieutenant Dave Carey shot down in North Vietnam on August 31st, 1967.

PAXTON: I'd say 50 percent of my junior high school was wearing the bracelet. This was a way to show support. You didn't have to be for the war or against the war.

GRIFFIN: Spurred by a conversation with his wife about the bracelets and how they united a country during a divisive war, he decided to try to find Lieutenant Dave Carey. He found him in Texas, 80 years old. Carey spent five-and-a-half years in the Hanoi Hilton.

PAXTON: I sent him an email, and he emailed me right back and said I would love to have it.

CAPT. DAVE CAREY (RET) FORMER PRISONER OF WAR: I have been getting those periodically for all these years. I tell them they have no idea how much those bracelets meant to us when we were in Hanoi. It kind of lifted our morale.

GRIFFIN: Carey, who retired as a captain, can still recall the day he was shot down.

CAREY: The missile went right between us. There was a huge explosion. A fireball blew the tail section off my airplane. When I ejected from the airplane, had a parachute, landed in the middle of a small North Vietnamese village.

GRIFFIN: He still remembers the beatings.

CAREY: My arms didn't work for weeks and weeks. I ate wiggling around on my stomach and stick my face in a bowl of rice.

GRIFFIN: Meanwhile, the woman who started the bracelet movement, Carol Bates Brown, was a student at Cal State Northridge .

CAROL BATES BROWN, POW BRACELET FOUNDER: Somebody came up with the idea of putting names on the bracelets, and when it really took off like it did, it was just shocking and unbelievable. I think we distributed something like 5 million bracelets.

CAREY: A little airplane had one seat.

GRIFFIN: Fifty-five years later, one of those pilots finally met the student who wore a bracelet with his name on it, lifting their spirits when they were POWs.

CAREY: We kept our sense of humor, and we kept the faith. Faith in ourselves, faith in each other, faith in our country, and faith in God.

PAXTON: He's a genuine American hero, and I'm just humbled to have had a small footnote in his story.

GRIFFIN: In Washington, Jennifer Griffin, FOX News.

(END VIDEO TAPE)

BAIER: Amazing story, great stuff. FOX News proudly salutes our nation's veterans and the organizations that serve them every day. We believe our veterans deserve to live with dignity and independence, not on the streets. And that's why we are making Camo our cause in support and honor of the U.S. vets campaign. You can join us by making a donation wearing Camo on this Veterans Day. To donate and learn more information on how you can help U.S. vets end veteran homelessness, visit USVets.org/FOXforward. We're wearing our camo tonight.

Up next, the Friday lightning round, the midterms, President Biden's speech in Egypt, one last Candidate Casino.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

RONALD REAGAN , FORMER U.S. PRESIDENT: The greatest thing that's happened for the Republican Party is when the chips are down and the decisions are made as to who the candidates will be, then the 11th commandment prevails and everybody goes to work, and that is thou shall not speak ill of another Republican.

DONALD TRUMP , FORMER U.S. PRESIDENT: There it is, Trump at 71, Ron DeSanctimonious at 10 percent.

GOV. GLENN YOUNGKIN, (R) VIRGINIA: I do not call people names. I really work hard to bring people together.

GOV. CHRIS SUNUNU , (R) NEW HAMPSHIRE: Do you see a lot of people surrounding you, saying, gee, I can't wait to be arm in arm with former President Trump?

WINSOME SEARS, (R) VIRGINIA LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR: We have a clear mission, and it is time to move on.

KELLYANNE CONWAY, FORMER SENIOR COUNSELOR TO PRESIDENT TRUMP: We've got the best policies and messages. We don't have unity right now.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: Well, the 11th commandment, we're not sure it's sticking as of yet, as we get ready for what's ahead in 2024. We mentioned yesterday the Governor DeSantis and the 45th president going after him. Now it has, as you just saw, Governor Youngkin of Virginia, a post last night from President Trump saying, "Young Kin (now that's interesting take. Sounds Chinese, doesn't it?) in Virginia couldn't have won without me. I endorsed him, did a very big Trump Rally for him telephonically, got MAGA to vote for him or he couldn't have come close to winning. But he knows that and admits it. Besides having a hard time with Dems in Virginia, but he'll get it done."

Let's start there. Let's bring in our panel, syndicated radio host Hugh Hewitt , FOX News chief legal correspondent, anchor at FOX NEWS SUNDAY, Shannon Bream, and FOX News senior political analyst Juan Williams. Well, Shannon, we knew it was going to start. We just didn't know it was going to start before we didn't finish.

(LAUGHTER)

SHANNON BREAM, FOX NEWS ANCHOR: Well, 2024 was always in the wings waiting to burst forth, and it has now. And those in Trump world say Tuesday this announcement is coming. "Rolling Stone" had an interesting article saying that they accuse the president of going out and actually asking people for dirt on people like Glenn Youngkin, on Ron DeSantis , and that he is starting the rumor mill. Politics is a contact sport. We knew 2024 was going to get rough. And the party is now going to have to make a decision about which way they go.

BAIER: And Juan, even still, you have this runoff December 6th. And this potentially effects some of that, who is campaigning for Herschel Walker , what happens? Does the 45th president go in there? Where does it go?

JUAN WILLIAMS, FOX NEWS POLITICAL ANALYST: Wow, see, that's the very curious thing, because you are looking at dynamics now, dynamics taking shape. If you are Herschel Walker , do you really want Donald Trump coming in? Does he help or does he hurt? Last time he was telling people don't come out to vote. Don't trust in the election process. Now he has become even more of a divisive figure.

Second thing is, does he announce before he goes in? If he announces Tuesday, I'm not sure then that he some ways is not more like kryptonite to superman Herschel Walker . All of a sudden, a lot of people will be saying, you know what, the party should be going in a different direction and he is pushing against that trend. It's very -- and also, let me say, Tuesday is a curious time. It's kind of in the aftermath of the election. I think people are like let's have a little interregnum before we pick up the pace.

BAIER: Yes. Hugh?

HUGH HEWITT, SYNDICATED RADIO HOST: I think President Trump is beginning the 2016 strategy all over again, which is take on your most significant rival early the way he took on Jeb Bush, and then move down the line to Glenn Youngkin. So he is going to replay his 2016 playbook. Does it work the second time you run it? In Major League Baseball the second time the batter comes up he usually hits better. In football you try and get the quarterback the second time around. So I'm not sure it will work. I don't like shooting inside of the tent ever. And I certainly don't think it helps Herschel Walker . It doesn't help him at all.

BAIER: What about what the fallout from this midterm inside the Republican Party? There was such expectation. There was such kind of hope and build up, and then to have President Biden be one of the most successful midterm presidents since George W. Bush .

HEWITT: I was among the most exuberantly enthusiastic, irrational enthusiasm, Alan Greenspan would call it. And some I'm disappointed and every Republican is disappointed, and you ought to be disappointed. We thought we were going to win big and we're going to win little.

Here's the deal, though. It's a win, and a win is a win is a win. And right now got we've got an attack on Mitch McConnell by some Republicans in the caucus. That makes no sense to me. We'll talk about McCarthy later. Just never shoot inside the tent, certainly not until you have to.

BAIER: Shannon, you have got this weekend on FOX NEWS SUNDAY some of that developing House drama that, it appears that Leader McCarthy will become Speaker McCarthy, but there is going to be a challenge.

BREAM: Yes, and the conservatives are speaking up and saying they want to extract some promises, some concessions before they decided to get in line and vote for him. They are saying publicly the votes aren't there yet. Congressman Jim Banks with us. He is one of the more conservative voices in the House. He is running for the whip position against Tom Emmer who was in charge of turning the House from blue to red. He says he did it so he should hang on. Maybe not in the way that Hugh was looking for. But those interparty battles are going to continue, and leadership is going to be a fight.

BAIER: Yes, Chip Roy from Texas, "Washington Examiner" op-ed, "Words are not enough. We have to stand for something. We have fight for something. Doing so requires a willingness to take on real political risk to fight for the people. We congressional Republicans have taken no such political risk thus far. Leadership has not demonstrated the willingness to use all the tools at our disposal to check a radical White House and fight for the people suffering from its policies." It seems like a bumpy right for McCarthy, Juan. He's going to have to make some concessions, but he did have Jim Jordan on his side, Scalise on his side, kind of did some prep work prior to this moment.

WILLIAMS: Right. And I think it's very important, especially Jim Jordan, because Jim Jordan has been sort of the unofficial, maybe I don't know if he is officially the leader of the Freedom Caucus, but he is the spiritual leader. He's kind of the fiery face. And for him to say right now let's stick with McCarthy I think was critical. Scalise could have stuck him in the back you know and said I'm running, and he didn't do that. So those are both good signs.

But the reality is that you've got to make some of these concessions. You've got people out there who are at the extremes. I think one of the reasons Democrats did well is I think they were able to, some might say caricature, but certainly portray Republicans as an extreme alternative, made it less of the referendum on Biden and more of a choice between extremism and what looked like normalcy.

BAIER: Hence, the abortion and threat to democracy close that they used.

HEWITT: Effective, as well as the Social Security and Medicare, which I didn't think worked anymore, but it did. It worked with enough people. Even though Republicans are winning the national vote, it worked in enough places to get them close.

BAIER: Let's do Winners and Losers.

HEWITT: My winner is Kevin McCarthy. Since Paul Ryan announced his retirement in April of 2018, Leader McCarthy has put together what appears to be a majority. And he has done so through hard work, by being a big tent Republican, by being conservative. What Juan just said is important. He will need a good team. Shannon is talking to the guy I hope he becomes the whip because of Jim Banks, but I think Kevin McCarthy is the big winner.

The loser of the week is China. Because Kevin McCarthy wins, he sets up a select committee on China, and they will be going deep into what is our number one adversary in the world.

BAIER: Shannon, winner and loser?

BREAM: Winner, I have all of us as Americans. It's Veterans Day today. We are saluting them, and because of the sacrifices they have made in their families as well, we have freedom. You've got make Camo your cause if you are wearing it today to salute our vets. God bless them and their families.

My loser is Chris Magnus over at CBP. Whether he hangs on or not, there's a push to push him out the door. Whether he takes the fall for what's going on at the border, whether he hangs on or not, it has been a rough historically bad year at the border for him.

BAIER: Winner and loser, Juan?

WILLIAMS: I think it's pretty clear from the tone of our conversation the winner is President Biden and the Democrats. They bucked history, as you pointed out earlier in the show, Bret, best midterm performance by an incumbent party in power in 20 years. And nobody, I think, understood the dynamics at play, but President Biden was consistent in his messaging, and it was effective. He avoided the red wave.

The loser of the week I think is Donald Trump . And it's odd for me to say that, because people say, well, you are a Democrat. No, but let me just tell you, politically, he is more damaged now. His rivals, it seems to me, Ron DeSantis in Florida, Youngkin, I think these people are doing very well right now. Obviously, DeSantis had a great week, great performance. And I think that the polls show right now Biden is more popular than Trump. So, it's like where is he going except self-serving attacks?

BAIER: Yes. I was going to take a trip down to Candidate Casino but I noticed that you were all about 50/50 on the Senate control. So, the casino is closed.

(LAUGHTER)

WILLIAMS: Thank goodness.

(LAUGHTER)

BREAM: Lock it up.

BAIER: All right. Thank you.

It is Friday. It's Friday. Time for "Notable Quotables."

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MARTHA MACCALLUM, FOX NEWS ANCHOR: It is 7:00 p.m. in the east and polls have now closed.

KAMALA HARRIS , (D) VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: You did it, Joe.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: What's your new reality going to be like in Washington?

JOE BIDEN , (D) PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: More difficult.

GOV. RON DESANTIS, (R) FLORIDA: Florida is where woke goes to die.

KARI LAKE, (R) ARIZONA GUBERNATORIAL NOMINEE: I'm going to be your worst fricking nightmare.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: We are feeling good about what we are seeing.

BAIER: There was no red wave. It was a ripple.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I think it was not a good night for Donald Trump .

DONALD TRUMP , FORMER U.S. PRESIDENT: I'm going to be making a very big announcement on Tuesday, November 15th.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: We are exactly where we want to be in this race.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: The votes are still being counted. We know this will take time.

SEN. RAPHAEL WARNOCK (D-GA): You mark my word. The people of Georgia are going to get this right.

HERSCHEL WALKER , (R-GA) U.S. SENATE CANDIDATE: I think the lord prepared me for a moment like this right here.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Nicole early yesterday morning, all of the surge from the sea and the churning waves just ate away the sandy foundations.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: President Zelenskyy and the Ukrainians have to be open to the possibility of negotiations, but on their terms, not on Russia's terms.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: By lending your talents to the United States military, you made us stronger and smarter. You reminded us that this democracy is worth defending.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: Well, winner was democracy this week. It's been quite a week.

Monday, on SPECIAL REPORT, FOX News senior strategic analysis -- analyst, former, retired General Jack Keane on the meeting between President Biden and Chinese leader Xi Jinping . Please join Shannon Sunday, FOX NEWS SUNDAY. Her guests will be Indiana Republican Congressman Jim Banks and Maryland Democratic governor, the new one, elect Wes Moore.

Thanks for inviting us into your home tonight. That's it for this SPECIAL REPORT, fair, balanced, and still unafraid. Make it a great weekend. Here's Jesse. Hey Jesse. Oh, it's Hegseth.

END

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HD Travel Delays; **Sam Bankman-Fried Released on \$250 Million Bond; Russia Ramps Up Attacks on Ukraine; Border Surge; Congress Set to Pass Spending Bill; Major Winter Storm Grips Country**

BY Neil Cavuto, Nate Foy, Will Nunley, Chad Pergram, Lydia Hu, Mike Tobin, Steve Bender, Madison Alworth, Max Gorden

WC 8,319 words

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SC CAVU

LA English

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LP

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: We got a text last night saying they rescheduled us to Austin at 12:00 today with a layover. No, no, no.

TD

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: There was a 90-minute delay due to the deicing, 30 below, and so they also couldn't get water on the plane, which meant no running water in the bathroom.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: It is frigid, frigid, frigid.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I literally thought it felt like Antarctica.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: They just have mechanical issues and they canceled our flight.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: There's nothing left for us. So we're stranded.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

NEIL CAVUTO, FOX NEWS ANCHOR: 'Twas the night before the night before Christmas and, all throughout the country, good luck for those trying to travel pretty much anywhere in the country, more than 11,000 flights canceled or delayed in the U.S. just today, bad for travelers who can't get off the ground and bad even if you're not traveling, because that package you're waiting for might not get to you.

FedEx and UPS say they are worried, and close to 1.5 million Americans are without power. FOX on top of a country frozen in place with Mike Tobin in Chicago, where they're used to flight cancellations, but nothing like this, Madison Alworth in Newark, New Jersey, with a lot of travelers who would simply had it with this, Max Gorden in Hamburg, New York, where, well, major flooding worries are adding to all of this, and FOX Weather meteorologist Steve Bender on just how long we're all going to have to deal with this.

So, forget about who is going to see a white Christmas. The race is on for millions of Americans who are having a devil of a time getting anywhere for Christmas.

Welcome, everybody. I'm Neil Cavuto, and this is your very frigid world, cold and getting colder, actually, much colder and much nastier.

First to Mike Tobin at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport on the frigid fallout there.

Hey, Mike.

MIKE TOBIN, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Well, you do have people, Neil, moving through the airport.

And this side of security certainly isn't piling up with bodies. It's a little different on the other side of the TSA checkpoint, and that's because you got a lot of people who are missing the flights.

But the airlines have done a fairly good job of notifying people that their airlines -- or that their flights have been canceled or delays. However, that number of cancellations just keeps increasing throughout the day.

If we look at some of the major air carriers across the United States, American Airlines, 357 cancellations since midnight last night, Delta Air Lines, 284, Southwest Airlines, almost 1,929, United Airlines 277.

If we look at just the domestic flights in the United States, according to FlightAware.com, you're almost up to 5,000, 4,733 flights that have been canceled. People are all over the place just trying to get home. If you have made it without delay, you're one of the lucky ones.

Also look at FlightAware.com. They have got the Misery Map. Yesterday, it looked like just Denver and the Twin Cities were taking the brunt of it. Now, if you look out there, everyone has the misery. Even Seattle-Tacoma, they were shut down for a while today because they got freezing rain that iced over the runways, very difficult to clear off.

They have got at least one of the runways up and running again. But the major carrier out of there, Alaska Air, was shut down until at least noon, so everyone is sharing in the misery. And it gets bad on the roads too, where the snap freeze caused the roads to ice over. Never got that snowy, but the roads ice over.

You have got a lot of spinouts, a lot of wrecks in a lot of states -- Neil.

CAVUTO: All right, Mike, thank you for that update. Be well, my friend.

Want to go to Madison Alworth right now.

It's not just those who are traveling who are having trouble. It's those who are waiting for gifts and packages that might have even bigger trouble. Madison's at Newark International Airport -- Madison.

MADISON ALWORTH, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Hey, Neil.

Yes, Americans are struggling to get to their final destinations. And, as you mentioned, their holiday gifts, those last-minute gifts might also struggle to get to the homes they need to be. So, Amazon, United States Postal Service, FedEx and UPS all warning that the winter storm is disrupting deliveries in the final days before Christmas.

In a statement on their Web site, FedEx said -- quote -- "All FedEx Express locations have been impacted by severe winter weather and delays can be expected for package deliveries across the U.S. with a delivery commitment through Monday, December 26."

Of course, though, as we were just talking about, it's not just gifts, and, of course, gifts are a great part of the holidays, but not the most important part. That's family. And families are having a hard time connecting.

I have met families that are still struggling to get to their loved ones after hours or days of travel.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ALEXIS GOLDBERG, TRAVELER: We're looking at about a six-hour delay right now. But that is only right now. We keep watching it, and it keeps getting pushed back.

ROBERT WILSON, TRAVELER: Well, the next step was to be here to try to talk to TAP Air Portugal, and, apparently, they're not going to be here for another 12 hours. So, now my plan is still trying to be figured out.

But think I'm going to go to American and see if I can get any better luck there.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

ALWORTH: These travelers are far from alone.

Taking a look, here's how many delays and cancellations we have had in the U.S. since Wednesday, today alone, over 4,000 cancellations.

Of course, Neil, the struggle with all this is, you can't control the weather. This winter storm is going to make it a white Christmas for some of us, but, for these travelers, it's definitely turning out to be a blue, blue Christmas.

I will send it back to you.

CAVUTO: I see what you did there, Madison. Thank you very, very much.

In the meantime, in Hamburg, New York, they're used to snow and they're used to freezing and all of that stuff, right near Buffalo, New York, after all, but flooding? That's a whole 'nother problem here.

Max Gorden is in Hamburg with more.

Max, what's going on there?

MAX GORDEN, FOX WEATHER CORRESPONDENT: Hey, good evening, Neil.

Well, right now, I'm standing on the shores of a very angry Lake Erie, 14- to-18-foot waves today. It's forced the evacuations of homes near here, as well as homes on other areas of the eastern shores of Lake Erie. We're also talking about lots of snow here in Western New York, up to three feet expected, eight inches so far at the Buffalo Airport, that airport experiencing whiteout conditions, zero visibility.

That's because the wind has been howling. A 72 mile-per-hour gust was measured at the airport. And it's knocked out power for tens of thousands of folks all across Western New York.

Travel advisories have also been issued all across the state, and a travel ban has been issued in Buffalo. They're telling folks, stay off the roads. It's simply too dangerous. You know, when they're banning road travel here in Buffalo, it's serious -- Neil, back to you.

CAVUTO: To put it mildly. Thank you, my friend, very, very much.

Now let's get an idea how bad this is going to get.

For that, we go to Steve Bender, FOX Weather meteorologist.

What are we looking at, Steve?

STEVE BENDER, FOX WEATHER METEOROLOGIST: Good evening.

We're looking at another couple more days through the holiday weekend, Neil, where you're going to be dealing with this terrible winter storm. That includes us here in the Big Apple, temperatures dropping below freezing. So, now we're worried about that flash freeze in place.

It's startling to think that, yes, Max and I are in the same state. He's dealing with a blizzard. We're dealing with just that blistering cold. But we're not alone. Look at the feels-like temperature, where it's just dangerous to be outside.

That burst of pink just showing you where those temperatures are getting to negative-30, where you could have frostbite in 10 minutes or less. So, we know you're going to have family and friends that are traveling from out of town. The kids want to play in the snow, still not advisable, because, as they're moving around, any exposed skin is susceptible to that frostbite.

And so now you have to start thinking about those holiday traditions, shifting them indoors. Something else I want you to look at, look how far this cold there plunges. All the way to the Gulf Coast, the Rio Grande Valley, Corpus Christi, Brownsville, they're looking at subfreezing temperatures.

It's important, because, when we talk about that holiday travel, it doesn't matter which flight that you are traveling out of or airport. They are going to be going through that deicing process. And so the concern moving forward is, just how cold will this last? Well, it's going to last all the way through Christmas Eve into Christmas, and then finally starting to lift as we move into early next week.

So, we know so many people are traveling for the holidays. But even if you're hunkering down at home because you couldn't make it out, whether you couldn't drive or you couldn't fly out, you still want to measure the time that you're outside.

Any longer than 15 minutes, now you're starting to expose yourself to the potential of hypothermia, and so why we're trying to advise people, if you can, if you dig Christmas lights, and, normally, you would walk around the neighborhood, this is the time of year that you want to drive in your car, if it's safe to do so, and you want to crank that heat.

That's what you want to do, is try to stay warm through this blistering cold. This is the coldest that so many people have seen in decades, Neil. And, again, it's only going to continue through the weekend. So, this is something that you have to respect and take notice of -- Neil, over to you.

CAVUTO: Very wise words, my friend. Thank you very much, Steve Bender, the FOX Weather meteorologist extraordinaire.

In fact, have you noticed, in this week, in particular, guys like Steve and everyone else who have been covering this, aren't they impressive? And I'm just saying that not because there's a FOX in front of their names, but if you really like what you have been seeing out of FOX Weather, there's an easy way to download it.

The app is phenomenal. The forecasts are dead on. The sweeping nature, the graphics they use to explain what's going on, and all the parts of the country that are experiencing some wicked cold weather, I mean, freezing conditions in Orlando, 35 to 36 degrees in Tampa, Florida, they cover all of that. You can connect that to your favorite TV device, so you're off and running.

All right, well, kind of off and running at the corner of Wall and Broad as we end a week that was at least up for the Dow Jones industrials, but, again, not every other average, the S&P and the Nasdaq finishing the week on the downside.

I should still point out that, month to date, we will have a tough time seeing whether we get something that approaches a holiday or post-Santa rally. All the major averages are down at least 4 percent for the month. And don't even get me started on where we stand now for the year, with the Nasdaq down in excess of 33.5 percent, 20 percent for the S&P 500, about 9 percent for the Dow.

To put it mildly, unless something dramatically changes next week, we're en route to seeing the worst year for stocks since 2008. You might recall, back then, we were dealing with something called a meltdown. That was then. Let's see what happens now, another week of trading to go.

All right, meanwhile, taking a look at the drop in temperatures at the border and the surge in those trying to get through it before something called Title 42 presumably goes away. We're on it -- after this.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAVUTO: You are looking live at the border in Eagle Pass, Texas, a drone shot showing the crowds that are building and dealing with the migrant surge that is happening right now.

No one knows for sure, of course, when Title 42 will formally go away, right now held up in the Supreme Court, and the administration itself is saying we can deal with this until after Christmas. Bottom line is, this is a scene that plays out every day. You're looking at it live.

I want to go to Hector Garza on this, of course, of the National Border Patrol Council.

Hector, always good to have you, because we're just getting word, of course, of some of these latest numbers, you know far better than I, my friend, that show illegal crossings just shy of 600,000. That is since October. We have got nearly 400,000 being released into the U.S. Those are not promising numbers.

What do you make of them?

HECTOR GARZA, VICE PRESIDENT, NATIONAL BORDER PATROL COUNCIL: Well, we know that, in the last fiscal year under President Biden, we saw over 2.2 million apprehensions on the border by Border Patrol agents.

And, this year, we feel that it's going to -- it's going to keep on increasing. And we don't think there's an end to that. And, as you mentioned, Neil, this is an ongoing problem that we're seeing every single day. And, again, not only is it border crossers with -- seeking asylum, but it's also dangerous criminals that are coming across the border -- border.

And we're also seeing those dangerous cartel operatives that operated in the border towns in there affecting our families.

CAVUTO: I was going through -- we're going to explore this in a little bit more depth with Chad Pergram coming up, Hector, but there are some allocations in that huge spending measure to help you guys out, but they seem relatively small, \$800 million for shelter and services programs, \$6 million for caregiving and child services, about \$25 million to deal with wellness and other efforts to help the CBP.

Then they lumped together about \$16 billion for the Customs and Border Protection, but don't detail exactly how guys like you could benefit from that to help fight this. Are you disappointed?

GARZA: Well, we're very disappointed because most of that money that's being allocated is to actually process people and to enable catch and release.

That's what that -- that's what the monies are for, so we can get more processing facilities, so we can get more accommodations for people that are crossing the border illegally and are seeking asylum. And, unfortunately, it's only money for catch and release and also money for those nongovernmental organizations that are -- that are enabling this presidential administration and encouraging more illegal immigration.

Unfortunately, we're not seeing money for vehicles so that our agents can go out and patrol. We're not seeing money so that we can upgrade our radio systems. Right now, currently, it's very difficult to be able to communicate with one another along the border. We have a lot of radio dead spots where we're not able to get out and seek support from our fellow agents.

So, unfortunately, a lot of this money is not meant for true border security. And that's very disappointing.

CAVUTO: And, even if it were, it seems like the numbers pale to thousands of migrants and got-aways with whom you have to deal.

For example, I'm looking at this, Hector, and saying that they're looking at providing \$60 million for about 125 new border officers and 250 technicians and support staff. That's a drop in the bucket, isn't it?

GARZA: It's not enough for the current crisis that we have.

And even if this administration decides to completely change our Border Patrol duties to just for caring and processing people, that, at the end of the day, the amount of people that are coming across our border is uncontrollable. And there's not enough money for us to be able to handle the surge of humanity that's coming across our border every single day.

And FOX News does a great job in showing the American public what disaster is happening at the border right now. So, unfortunately, yes, the money that is being allocated is for caring and processing and encouraging more catch and release. And, unfortunately, there's not enough money allocated for border security, so that we can do our job and stop those dangerous drugs and those dangerous criminals that come across the border every single day.

And, unfortunately, they do come across, and they don't get apprehended, and they sneak into the United States.

CAVUTO: Hector, I don't know how you deal with it all. But you deal with it all. Try to have a merry Christmas, my friend, for you and your family, all your men and women who are dealing with this pretty much on your own.

Hector, thank you.

By the way, we are going to explore this breakdown in this spending measure tomorrow on my weekend show, special Christmas Eve edition, live, where we will look at some of the funding, the billions of dollars we're told is going to be parceled out to deal with the crisis at the border, but maybe not in the way you think.

Now, I gave you a couple of those examples. But beginning at tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. Eastern time live, we will explore the solution, at least from the administration and in this big spending plan, to not letting Title 42 extend indefinitely. This is the alternative to that. You might be disappointed.

But, in the meantime, accept it as a given that that spending measure is a given.

Let's go to Chad Pergram right now on Capitol Hill with dotting the I's and crossing the T's and getting a certain signature -- Chad.

CHAD PERGRAM, FOX NEWS SENIOR CAPITOL HILL PRODUCER: Neil, the omnibus is done.

The House voted to 225 to 201 to align with the Senate and fund the government through next September. Kevin McCarthy used the vote to make his case for speaker.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. KEVIN MCCARTHY (R-CA): This is a monstrosity. It is one of the most shameful acts I have ever seen in this body.

There's no greater example of the nail in the coffin of the greatest failure of a one-party rule of the House, the Senate and the presidency.

REP. JIM MCGOVERN (D-MA): After listening to that, it's clear he doesn't have the votes yet.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PERGRAM: Democrats wonder how a GOP House can pass any bills next year, when they can't agree on a speaker.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MCGOVERN: I love my friends the other side of the aisle. They complain. They're going to vote no. And then they're going to go home and they are going to do press conferences announcing all the members' projects that they got.

But that's what we have come to expect from my Republican friends here in the House. They're just no, no, no, no on everything. They're more interested in Twitter followers than they are in actually legislating.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PERGRAM: One Democratic no, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, nine Republican yeas, but many GOP members blasted the two senators who wrote the bill, Patrick Leahy and Richard Shelby. They're retiring.

Republicans want to put their stamp on spending next year.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. JASON SMITH (R-MO): You need to get rid of a lot of those senators that decide to continue to spend like this.

What's unfortunate is the people who crafted this huge spending bill, none of them will ever face a vote of the people getting, because they're retiring.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PERGRAM: About half the House voted by proxy today . Lawmakers are only supposed to vote remotely if they have COVID.

Democrat Rashida Tlaib voted present, even though she was absent. Today's vote may be the last proxy vote in the House -- Neil.

CAVUTO: Chad, just to be clear, this \$1.65 trillion, whatever they're finally calling it, covers what period into next year?

PERGRAM: This will run until the end of the fiscal year. It will run until the end of next September, September 30.

But, right now, there's another bill, an interim bill, that they have put together, because it's going to take days to get this bill in form for the president to sign.

So, today, the House again synced up with the Senate another interim spending bill which funds the government through December 30.

CAVUTO: All right, Chad Pergram, thank you very, very much.

A reminder as well on this very issue, I know we keep talking about what's happening tomorrow, but a lot of news that we're following tomorrow, this spending measure, the \$1.65 trillion, whatever you want to call it, is complicating the Federal Reserve's efforts. I know it sounds a little crazy, but some are saying, because of this one measure alone, the Federal Reserve, because of the potential inflationary impact, is going to have to keep raising interest rates.

So, forget about the economic numbers. These guys in Washington just might have complicated that for you. Rates could go still higher because the spending just went a whole lot higher.

Meantime, taking a look at what's happening right now with Russia reacting, of course, to what's been a very busy and celebratory week for the president of the Ukraine. But now we're hearing that both sides are talking almost past each other.

Nate Foy is in Kyiv with more -- Nate.

NATE FOY, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Hey, Neil.

President Zelenskyy back here in Kyiv, but President Putin is making a trip of his own. See where he went today and what he is saying about the Russian war effort -- next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAVUTO: Forget snow and ice. How about this lightning?

A Spirit Airlines flight that departed Philadelphia International Airport for Cancun this morning returned after multiple lightning strikes. Out of an abundance of caution, they thought that was the right thing to do. Passengers are being booked elsewhere.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAVUTO: All right, you didn't think that Vladimir Putin would ignore all the pomp and celebration around the Ukrainian president being feted in Washington and then in Poland and now back home in Ukraine.

Nate Foy on what's happening now in Kyiv, Ukraine -- Nate.

FOY: Hey, Neil.

A busy day for President Putin. We will get to him momentarily. But I want to start with Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. He got back to Kyiv today, and he met with Ukraine's foreign ambassadors in a meeting this afternoon where he focused on building strategic partnerships all over the world and creating opportunities for Ukraine.

As we head into Christmas weekend, he said, now is not the time to relax. Listen to this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

VOLODYMYR ZELENSKYY, UKRAINIAN PRESIDENT (through translator): We have no right to a weekend, no right to rest, no right to vacation, no right to an eight-hour workday. All the rights guaranteed by the Constitution of Ukraine are currently on hold for us personally, as the representatives of our states.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

FOY: Now, Neil, President Putin was also busy today touring a weapons factory in Russia. He was given a walking tour, checking out armored vehicles with missile launchers.

He reiterated there are no financial limits for Russia's war effort. Now, the focus of that effort is in Bakhmut. Take a look at this new video that we just got today. President Zelenskyy was here earlier in the week. He describes it as the hottest spot on the entire front line. Russia has been pushing for Bakhmut since May. They have met a stiff Ukrainian resistance.

Also today, take a look at this. North Korea is denying supplying weapons to the Russian group that is fighting in Bakhmut. It's the Wagner Group. It's a Russian mercenary organization. The U.S. says North Korea sent missiles and rockets to the Wagner Group. But North Korea calls those allegations -- quote -- "groundless."

Now, back out here live, as part of that spending bill that passed through Congress, Ukraine will receive \$45 billion in additional aid. It comes as we head into Christmas weekend, Neil, with half the residents here in the Kyiv region without power set to celebrate the holiday in the dark and in the cold.

CAVUTO: Nate, I was curious too from Russia.

At first, it was very concerned about this Patriot missile system we were going to provide the Ukrainians. Now we hear Vladimir Putin saying, well, it's no big deal, and it's actually archaic and older, whatever, something to that effect.

Where are they on this? Because they were quite concerned and saying this was a provocative act little more than days ago.

FOY: Well, President Putin really dismissed the idea that this would be sort of a game-changer.

I believe the quote that he said was that Russia would crack the Patriot system. He said, it's not that effective. And he's talking about an intercontinental ballistic missile that he says will soon be deployed. And that's not the only tough talk coming out of Vladimir Putin. He said that he's going to increase the size of Russia's military by 500,000 troops.

CAVUTO: You know, there was a separate story, Nate, in The Financial Times today. I hope I'm right on that.

But it went to this, that the Russian strategy right now is kind of what it seems to have been, besides these missile attacks and promises of more to come, to target not only civilian senators, but utilities and power stations, so that Ukrainians can quite literally freeze.

What have you heard on that? What do you make of that strategy to where the Ukrainians down?

FOY: Well, the most dangerous place that you can be, Neil, is near a power plant.

And President Biden said it during his visit with President Zelenskyy that it appears that Putin is using winter as a weapon. So, the power plants are certainly being targeted. Here in Kyiv, I believe it's been, in the past nine days, we have had three airstrikes.

And some of those missiles or Iranian-made drones are intercepted when they're targeting one of those power plants, but that doesn't mean that the danger necessarily goes away, because, after it's intercepted, it still comes down and can cause quite a lot of damage and can hurt a lot of people.

CAVUTO: Nate, you're right there at Christmastime, no less, and bravely reporting on all of this.

I'm wondering what, it sounds like a cliché question, the mood of the Ukrainian people is in the face of all of this, obviously buoyed by this promise of more aid coming, \$45 billion worth, this Patriot system and all. But this is 300-plus days, no sign the Russians are relinquishing or blinking.

They're certainly -- the Ukrainians aren't. How are they holding up through this?

FOY: I'm overwhelmed by their resilience, Neil.

In spite of such suffering, they're remarkably positive. And they're very appreciative of the United States. We were down in Sophia Square, where some local business owners donated a Christmas tree that is only lit up between 5:00 and 9:00 p.m. every night. It runs entirely on generator power.

And we were shooting a story. And some teenagers saw that I'm from America. And they stopped me. They started chatting with me. And we had a nice conversation. And as we were walking away, they were yelling at me, "God bless America."

So it really puts things in perspective how appreciative they are, again, like I said, in spite of such suffering, so many people in the cold right now, temperatures freezing, celebrating Christmas during a war. It's a really desperate situation for a lot of people, but they have smiles on their faces, and it's beyond inspiring.

CAVUTO: To say the least, and at this time of year, especially, Nate, to your point.

Thank you very, very much, Nate Foy in Kyiv with very latest there.

Meanwhile, as you know by now, Sam Bankman-Fried did get bail, and is going to sit out his trial, if it ever comes to a trial, to deal with what could be a mass misappropriation and fraud of all sorts that could eventually put him in jail for the rest of his life, but did you ever wonder how he got a \$250 million bail?

And even if it just was a small percentage that was paid, he presumably had no money. He said that he had only about \$100,000. Then where did the money for the bail come from?

After this.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAVUTO: All right, we just crossed the 12,000 flight delay and/or canceled mark right now. It was at about 11,000 just a few minutes ago.

But expect to see more of this. On the left of your screen, though, a scene out of Philadelphia that is a bit surreal. A Spirit Airlines flight that had departed Philadelphia International Airport was on its way to Cancun, but it returned after crew members reported that they were getting hit with multiple lightning strikes.

A spokesman for Spirit said the flight then turned back, out of an abundance of caution. Travelers got off. The airline is working to rebook them. But with weather conditions in Philadelphia, maybe good luck with that. The FAA is investigating the incident. And the delays, and a quite a few of them, continue to pile on.

In the meantime, one of the bigger financial stories of the week is what was once one of the richest men, a young man at that, who lost all his billions and now could be looking at life behind bars if found guilty of wire fraud, securities fraud and a lot of other bad things.

But for the time being, he will be out on bail, a very expensive bail for a guy who presumably was out of cash.

Lydia Hu on the latest -- Lydia.

LYDIA HU, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Neil, Sam Bankman-Fried, the disgraced former crypto CEO, reportedly arrived at his parents' California home early this morning after being released from federal custody yesterday on a \$250 million bond.

Here's a look at that 3,000-square-foot Bay Area home where Bankman-Fried is going to spend his holiday. The home, estimated to be worth \$4 million, is owned by the accused fraudster's Stanford Law professor parents.

It's located in an exclusive neighborhood on the edge of Stanford University's campus. And it includes a gated in-ground swimming pool surrounded by a manicured lawn.

Now, this home is not only where Bankman-Fried will rest his head. It is also security for his release. If Bankman-Fried fails to return to court, then this home could be seized, along with the assets of his parents, who signed the bond, as well as possibly two other mystery people who also reportedly guaranteed the bond.

Now, the court appearance yesterday followed news that two former executives of Bankman-Fried's businesses, Caroline Ellison and Gary Wang, had pleaded guilty to federal fraud charges and are cooperating. The lawyer for the infamous Ponzi schemer Bernie Madoff appeared yesterday on FOX Business.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

IRA LEE SORKIN, FORMER ATTORNEY FOR BERNIE MADOFF: It's not likely he will go to trial. It's likely that he will cut a deal. It will help him at sentencing if he cuts a deal, admits responsibility.

I'm not sure he's going to want to go to trial. Or his lawyers may say, you go to trial, you're facing more time if you're convicted, rather than pleading and getting before a judge and admit your responsibility.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HU: Now, that lawyer, Mr. Sorkin, often represents FOX News media and FOX Corporation in various matters.

Bankman-Fried's parents, meanwhile, appeared in court with him yesterday. While Bankman-Fried maintains they played no role in the business, the current FTX CEO told lawmakers that his father, Joseph Bankman, did receive payments from FTX when he allegedly helped FTX with the company's charitable endeavors.

The next hearing is scheduled for January 3 in New York -- Neil, back to you.

CAVUTO: Lydia Hu, thank you very, very much for that.

Well, people are in a sour mood, not just those trying to get home or to grandma's or anywhere for Christmas, but those who don't really have to worry about that, but don't really like the whole Christmas thing and the giving of gifts. In fact, many are complaining about it. They just find it a waste of time.

And, boy, have they been complaining to us.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I wanted something really special, and I ended up getting pajamas.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: The worst Christmas gift I have ever received, I think it's socks.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: A dolly that you can brush her hair, and it was just creeping me out.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Sprinkles, just a little jar of sprinkles. It was just kind of like, you can do better.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Paperweight. Yes, that was useless.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Someone gave me like a half-eaten cookie one time. And I was like, what?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: A shake weight.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Slime, because I hate slime. It just disgusts me.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I wanted something really special, and I ended up getting pajamas.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I didn't get any. That's the worst thing.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: It was probably an iron to iron my clothes of my husband.

QUESTION: And what was your reaction to receiving it?

(LAUGHTER)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: "I love you, but no."

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CAVUTO: Man, oh, man, a lot of not-very-happy people who have some bad Christmas present experiences.

I hope Scott Martin at Kingsview Asset Management isn't among them, or retail watcher extraordinaire Hitha Herzog.

Hitha, I mean, that's a lot of unhappy people there. What did you make of it?

HITHA HERZOG, RETAIL WATCHER: Yes, they're definitely unhappy.

But I come from the school of thought that any gift is a good gift, because the thought it's the thought that counts. But...

(CROSSTALK)

CAVUTO: Yes, I don't know. Sometimes, people put such a little thought into it.

SCOTT MARTIN, FOX BUSINESS CONTRIBUTOR: If you can use it, yes.

CAVUTO: Yes, exactly, exactly, or sell it on eBay or whatever.

But finish that thought, Hitha. I'm sure it was a good one.

HERZOG: No, no, I was just going to say that some people are now throwing their budgets out the windows trying to get the best gifts.

I pulled this research from Oracle last night, and the worst offenders -- I said this yesterday -- but it was the men, just 40 percent of them throwing out the budgets trying to find the best gifts. And it's not worth it. Just -- it's fine. Make dinner. Maybe give someone an hour by themselves. That's a good gift, right?

I would like an hour just to read Charles Payne's new book. I -- that'd be a great gift. Don't worry about the socks or the pajamas.

CAVUTO: All right. Well, that makes sense.

Scott Martin, I was noticing there are a lot of people who have sort of posted in a certain order their worst gift ideas, among them, defective discount items, fruitcake -- fruitcake always makes it -- weight loss items. Someone that you love gives you that, you just know, all right, the marriage is over. So...

MARTIN: But anti-fruitcake, yes.

CAVUTO: Right, right, the out-of-style clothing. Of course, that would not apply to you, my sartorially splendid friend, of course, to you as well, Hitha.

But a lot of people, they have a long list of things they don't like, which is feeding this narrative there are a lot of bitter, angry people there.

MARTIN: For sure, because they usually can't get rid of those gifts that they don't want on, like you said, eBay or wherever else. You're going to sell them at a deep discount.

CAVUTO: Right.

MARTIN: I tell you just a personal story what happened to me many, many years ago, gift cards themselves.

So, Hitha mentioned books and things like that. Got a slew of Borders gift cards some time ago, before they went bankrupt, lost all that money, as well as Sharper Image, my friends...

CAVUTO: Oh.

MARTIN: ... where they went bankrupt after some friends of mine and I did a bunch of work around our neighborhood, got a bunch of Sharper Image gets cards, couldn't even use them because the company was done by the time we actually got to the mall.

CAVUTO: Wow.

Hitha, I don't mean to sound sexist here, but, from a woman's perspective, I would be curious.

When guys give their significant other a gift card because they're exasperated, I don't know what else to give, I know some women, i.e., my wife, who find that offensive because it's lazy. And she does not subscribe that the thought that counts, in -- to your argument.

How do you feel about that and whether that is more offensive than it is easy for the guy?

HERZOG: You know, Neil, I think if that gift card is very specific to that person's wants and needs, bring it on. I am all about the gift cards.

CAVUTO: Well, this was to Hickory Farms. This was to Hickory Farms, processed meats and cheeses.

I'm throwing it out there, but your thoughts.

HERZOG: Exactly, Neil. How did you know what I got you?

CAVUTO: There we go.

HERZOG: And, Scott, you know, I got you a gift card to Taco Bell. So I feel like I am -- it's my superpower, though.

CAVUTO: I got plenty.

HERZOG: I know how to give good gifts to people.

(LAUGHTER)

HERZOG: So, I know what you all want.

But you know what? If people know where that gift card really hits home, do it. I'm very much a fan of that.

CAVUTO: All right, it beats doing nothing, right, Hitha? And I guess that doesn't apply just to men or women. I mean, just, if you do nothing, well, obviously, you can count the days left of that relationship, but that that's what matters. Do something, right?

HERZOG: Just do something, yes.

It's -- you have two days now. You know what, Neil? What I'm doing is actually wrapping up my kids' bad art and sending it to my family. I hope none of them are watching right now.

(LAUGHTER)

HERZOG: Because guess what? It's the thought that counts. And they can't say that it's a terrible gift because it came from 4-year-olds.

MARTIN: That stuff will be in a museum some day, mark my words.

CAVUTO: Scott, it's interesting, though, when you look at this, that now -- again, I don't want to be sexist, but guys have a new excuse.

You have heard already about FedEx and UPS warning that a lot of gifts aren't going to get there. So I'm thinking, on Christmas morning, I can look around and say, geez, honey, I -- it's on that FedEx jet, but, any day, it'll be here. What do you think?

MARTIN: I ordered it in time. They can't find the gift. I'm so sorry.

CAVUTO: Right.

MARTIN: What did you want, by the way?

(LAUGHTER)

MARTIN: And then you go and buy the thing that she tells you that she wanted anyway. That is how you win that game.

CAVUTO: Poor Hitha is shaking her head and saying, who are these idiots?

(LAUGHTER)

CAVUTO: Guys, have a merry Christmas. We have good fun in all this, but we ought to just sort of take it down a notch here. There are a lot of things going on in the world.

You can tell, this friction and anger and all of this about getting to grandma's and getting gifts and all is getting the best of us, hopefully not for long.

On this same subject, we are talking about ways you can get around these flight delays and cancellations, 12,000 just today, by the way. There are ways, little smart ways, you can be doing things now as you wait outside that gate -- after this.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAVUTO: All right, it is bad out there, and getting worse.

To Will Nunley right now, FOX Weather meteorologist -- multimedia journalist, I should say. I believe he's in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Will, who do things look there?

WILL NUNLEY, FOX WEATHER MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST: Yes, Neil, just south of Little Rock here, making the trek up from Dallas, where I joined you earlier this morning.

And I will tell you what, a lot of these communities are just happy to get out of single-digit temperatures. We're at about 20 degrees where we are just south of Little Rock. And we continue to watch these power outages stack up, as we bring you the sights and sounds of what everybody is going through with this incredible storm.

And here's how power outages are stacking up right now. Some of the major states of concern include Maine, Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, even. All these are 100,000-plus in terms of power outages at this hour. And that translates, by the way, to hundreds of thousands, if not millions of people individually affected by that.

You were mentioning FedEx just a moment ago. And, of course, that rings a bell there in Memphis, because they have a major snarl in terms of trying to catch up with the delays they have been dealing with ice concerns overnight, and FedEx among many of the carriers saying your packages might not make it when they were originally scheduled because of all of the logistics they're having to deal with.

And, Neil, some of my friends here in Tennessee saying the mail never arrived today. That's because, in numerous counties across these -- Kentucky, Tennessee, here in Arkansas, areas, the major mail trucks were not able to get down to a lot of the rural counties and make those deliveries. And so they're, of course, asking for patience because safety has been such a concern.

And, Neil, even Memphis at this hour asking people to conserve energy where they can to avoid any rolling blackouts because so many of our nation's power grids are undergoing strain right now. And the last thing they want to have to do, especially as night closes in, is to have to turn off the power.

So, still a lot developing with the story. We're tracking it moment by moment for you over on FOX Weather -- Neil.

CAVUTO: And, Will, you and your team doing a great job.

Will Nunley, the FOX Weather multimedia journalist, he is everywhere on this, as is Gabe Saglie. He helps a lot of folks who are in that position of being stuck at an airport and wanting to get the heck out.

Gabe, always good to have you.

There are, I would say, millions in that predicament right now. What do you tell them?

GABE SAGLIE, TRAVELZOO.COM: Yes, 60 percent of the country under some sort of winter weather advisory out there, Neil.

I'm in Southern California, 78, 79 and sunny, but...

(CROSSTALK)

CAVUTO: Oh, man, oh, man. Rub it in. Rub it in.

(CROSSTALK)

CAVUTO: All right, help us out here.

SAGLIE: But even some of us here are stuck, because, as you know, this is a chain, this...

CAVUTO: You're right.

SAGLIE: Every cog in the wheel has got to fit perfectly, otherwise, a lot of us even in Southern, California, stuck because our aircraft, our crews are in other cities.

So, you have got to be super aware of what's going on weather-wise, not only where you're headed, but where you're connecting and where you're taking off, obviously, because, again, all that has a ripple effect for your particular bit of travel.

Make sure you download your airline's app. Real-time information does come across that app oftentimes well before you either get a phone call or, if you're at the airport, even before it's announced at the gate. And it also allows you to track the aircraft that's assigned to you. So, if you're, in fact, rebooked, you can see where that aircraft is coming from.

If it's coming from an area that's seeing weather issues, where planes are grounded, then you just know that earlier on and can plan -- plan accordingly. And if you do get booked, Neil, I'd say try to get the very first flight out of -- of the day, because, usually, those are -- that -- those flights take off before that -- the ripple effect begins to really snowball throughout the course of the day.

I got to say, I was stuck in a bomb cyclone in January of 2018. It took five days for us to be able to get that flight out of New York back to California. There were five of us, though. So, it does get trickier when there are groups of families or friends traveling together to accommodate all of those folks on new flights.

But keep in mind it could -- even if the weather looks really pretty after a couple of days, it could still take time for these aircraft and for these crews to be back in place to allow you to get to where you're going.

CAVUTO: So, super quickly, if you're at the airport, you're at a gate, faster for you to get on your smartphone and your device than it is to go to the agent and beg for something?

SAGLIE: No doubt.

CAVUTO: Interesting.

SAGLIE: Yes, program your airline's 800 number before you even get to the airport.

CAVUTO: Got it.

SAGLIE: And make sure you have that app with you, because that's where real-time information happens before.

Sometimes, you're getting it when these agents are getting it.

CAVUTO: Good point.

SAGLIE: So, it just allows you to have that bit -- a bit of a leg up on the competition.

CAVUTO: You know of what you speak.

Gabe Saglie, thank you very, very much, the travel expert, Travelzoo senior editor.

We're going to be all over this tomorrow, of course, combining the best of what FOX News offers with our FOX Weather folks. They're phenomenal, put it all together, what you have to do to get to where you want to go, if you're still having trouble getting out at all.

We're all over that 10:00 a.m. Eastern time tomorrow, as well as the latest on the border, and, oh, yeah, all that money we're spending. See you then.

"The Five" is now.

THIS IS A RUSH TRANSCRIPT. THIS COPY MAY NOT BE IN ITS FINAL FORM AND MAY BE UPDATED.

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HD **Interview With Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-FL); Congressman Criticized For Not Fawning All Over President Zelenskyy; Two Top FTX Executives Are Cooperating With Government; Sam Bankman-Fried Suddenly Finds Cash, Out For Holidays; WaPo: Exercise Protects Against Fatal COVID; Donald Trump Returns Did Not Prove Bombshell Left Prayed For; Canada's Tyrant Unveils Hit List Of Banned Guns; Waiting For Answers On Saudi's Role In 9/11 Attack**

BY Tucker Carlson, Vivek Ramaswamy

WC 7,911 words

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SN Fox News Channel: Tucker Carlson Tonight

SC TCARL

LA English

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LP

JEANINE PIRRO, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: That's all for us tonight. Thank you so much for watching.

You can catch me every day on "THE FIVE" and even on [cameo.com/JudgeJeanine](https://www.cameo.com/JudgeJeanine).

TD

TUCKER CARLSON TONIGHT is up next.

TUCKER CARLSON, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Good evening and welcome to TUCKER CARLSON TONIGHT.

You can't even really call it news anymore. It's some kind of "Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds" scenario on display every single day. Yesterday, last night, the President of Ukraine showed up in Congress wearing a green sweatshirt and cargo pants for maximum disrespect, and demanded the United States continue to spend more on his country's border security than we spend on our own. That actually happened.

It was a pretty cheeky performance if you think about it. But like Sam Bankman-Fried before him, Zelenskyy put a salesman's gloss on what otherwise might look very much like a scam.

So the tens of billions of dollars you'll be sending me is not charity, Zelenskyy explained. It's not a gift. It's not like the 20 bucks you gave the homeless guy at Union Station this morning for a quart of vodka. No, it's not that at all. This money, Zelenskyy said, is, "an investment." Oh, an investment.

So what exactly are the terms of this investment now that we're talking finance? When do we get our dividend checks? Well, Zelenskyy didn't specify that. Though, at one point in his speech, he did provide a hint.

Are the tens of billions of dollars you're sending me with no audit and no concrete proof of what I'm actually doing with it, will all that money be "enough," Zelenskyy asked rhetorically. Answer: "Not really."

"Not really." In other words, the return on our investment in Ukraine will be more pitches for more investments in Ukraine. Give me money, so I can demand more money. That's what Zelenskyy promised us last night. And under certain circumstances, that might actually be fine.

If nothing else, Zelenskyy is quite an audacious young entrepreneur with the kind of pluck and fast-talking shamelessness where you think, "This guy is either going to wind up in prison or very rich, and maybe both." And there are times when you might want to throw a kid like that a few bucks just to see where it goes. You don't know.

But unfortunately, this is not one of those times. The United States is flat out of money and not just in some abstract PowerPoint presentation kind of way, where we show you graphs of the national debt and we all pretend to be shocked and horrified.

No, no, no. The United States is broke in a real way, meaning we can no longer afford to take care of our citizens.

For example, 15 million Americans are about to lose their healthcare coverage under Medicaid. Now, these are people who got coverage during COVID, but will now lose that coverage thanks to a provision in the \$1.7 trillion spending bill that's about to become law.

As CNBC reports, Governors of various States have informed the Biden administration that the cost of keeping all those people on Medicaid is "too high." And it is high. Undoubtedly, it is high.

How high is it? Well, over the last three years since COVID began, the Federal government spent about \$100 billion in extra Medicaid payments to Americans. That's a lot of money. How much is it? Well, it turns out that \$100 billion is roughly what Congress has sent to our fast-talking Ukrainian friend in the sweatshirt in less than a single year. Just for comparison, just so you would know what the priorities are in Washington.

Your healthcare is just too expensive. Sorry. And your border is, too. Can't afford it. But for the strongman who runs Ukraine, no cost is too high.

That's real. Does that frustrate you? Does hearing the details infuriate you as a citizen? Imagine if you went to Congress to plead your case. Maybe you showed up in a sweatshirt to tell them what you think. "I'm an American citizen," you might say. "I've lived here my entire life. I've paid taxes, I've followed the law. I've supported the system my grandfathers built because I believed in that system. And now because corrupt ghouls like Janet Yellen at the Fed, so completely devalued the US dollar and so completely hollowed out our economy, I can no longer afford to go to the doctor. As an American citizen, please help me."

So if you showed up on the floor of the House of Representatives wearing a sweatshirt and said that, what kind of response do you think you would get? Would the response look anything like this?

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

VOLODYMYR ZELENSKYY, UKRAINIAN PRESIDENT: I assure you that Ukrainian soldiers can perfectly operate American tanks and planes themselves.

[CHEERING AND APPLAUSE]

ZELENSKYY: Thank you for both financial packages you have already provided us with and the ones you may be willing to decide on. Your money is not charity. It's an investment in the global security and democracy that we handle in the most responsible way.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: We're handling your money in the "most responsible way." Take our word for it. Take our word for it. And they clap like seals.

But here's the interesting thing. Almost every person in the room clapped like a seal. So no matter what that man said: Send me more money. I command you. Send me more money. We're taking care of it the most responsible ways -- they applaud, all of them, almost like they have to.

Now there are 435 members of the House of Representatives, and there are Republicans and Democrats. And famously, they don't get along. They don't agree on anything. They can't even pass a budget because they disagree on everything, very bitterly.

And yet, when a foreign leader shows up in cargo pants to tell them lies and give them orders, they all applaud. That's pretty weird behavior in a democracy if you think about it. The fractious debate we hear so much about doesn't exist. And in fact, looking at the screen last night, it didn't really look like a democracy, to be honest. It looked like this.

[VIDEO CLIP PLAYS]

CARLSON: Oh, yes, good point. Good point, sir. We're so pleased you're here. Throw your foreign flag on the dais and we'll applaud more. That's honestly what it looked like last night.

You've got to clap. You get in trouble if you don't clap, so everyone just claps all the time. Clapping is mandatory as long as Zelenskyy is speaking.

Now there were a few who didn't obey. That would include Matt Gaetz of Florida, Lauren Boebert of Colorado, and when they didn't stand up and applaud, they found out the hard way what happens to people who dare not to applaud.

NBC News took off right after them. That was the headline for NBC. Its house "historian" Michael Beschloss declared this: "For any Members of Congress who refused to clap for Zelenskyy, we need to know from them exactly why. We need to know why." Thought crime alert. You've been reported as not applauding. Explain yourself, plebe.

And then Beschloss went on television to drive home the point. Our sources have reported you are not clapping. Watch this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MICHAEL BESCHLOSS, NBC NEWS: And I think the other thing I'd like to ask is the number of Members of Congress -- almost all Republican -- who did not show up tonight or who showed up and refused to clap. I'd like to know why that was for two reasons.

Number one, you're a public servant. We're allowed to know those things. You're supposed to tell us, if you're serving in Congress, what the reason was. Do you love Putin or are you just opposed to democracy or is there something else?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: We have a right to know why you didn't clap. We have a right to know your thoughts. You thought you were a free person, able to make decisions for yourself. You could love or hate whoever you wanted in a free country. But no, Michael Beschloss has a right to know why you feel the way you do. Do you love Putin?

Why wouldn't you clap for a man who banned a Christian denomination? A man who arrested priests, raided monasteries, seized churches, outlawed opposition media outlets, outlawed political parties that opposed him, threw his primary political opponent in jail. Why would you applaud for a man like that? Do you love Putin? Are you opposed to democracy? Explain yourself. That's what he's saying. That's what they're all saying.

It's absurd. What they're describing is the opposite of democracy. There's no democracy in Ukraine, obviously. Banning a Christian denomination. Shut up. But he did.

So why all the hysteria? You've got two people who didn't clap for a foreign dictator, and Michael Beschloss gets red in the face. Why? Oh, almost everybody clapped for him. But a couple of people didn't. And Michael Beschloss couldn't handle that. What's going on here?

Is it possible that the more ludicrous the lie they tell you, the fewer questions they can tolerate about, the less dissent they can put up with because they fear the whole edifice might crumble, if they allowed one person to ask one reasonable question. It's possible that's what's happening.

Remember when Joe Biden told us about Nord Stream? There were two stories. The first story was Joe Biden promised to blow up Nord Stream, the pipeline that brought natural gas from Russia to Western Europe. He's going to blow it up. Do you remember that? You're not allowed to remember it, but we remember it and we saved the tape. Here it is.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOE BIDEN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: If Russia invades, that means tanks or troops crossing the border of Ukraine, again, then there will be no longer a Nord Stream 2. We will bring an end to it.

REPORTER: But how will you do that exactly? Since the project and control of the project is within Germany's control.

BIDEN: We will. I promise you. We'll be able to do it.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: Yes, so he said it on tape. I'm going to do to that pipeline what I did to Corn Pop at the pool at Wilmington. I'm going to take a chain to it.

So he promises to destroy the pipeline. And then, so does his number two at the State Department, Toria Nuland. We'll destroy the pipeline. And then the pipeline is destroyed, and that hurts Russia. It eliminates Russia's leverage over Europe. Okay. So we know how that happened.

But no, they told us. Russia did it. Putin blew up his own pipeline. That's how evil he is. That's how much destruction he wreaks. He doesn't just attack others. He attacks himself.

Okay, now. That's what they told us. And some of us had questions about it. Is that really what happened?

Michael Beschloss and his friends didn't like that. Anyone who asked questions about what happened to Nord Stream, which, by the way, sent more carbon into the atmosphere than any manmade event in history. So if you care about the climate, maybe you'd be a little worried about what just happened in Nord Stream.

If you suggested that the administration, the Biden administration, had anything to do with that, including prior knowledge of it, you are a Russian agent. Really, is that right? Can you fill us in a little bit more? No, you're working for Putin.

"Foreign Policy" Magazine, which used to be a real magazine, called any questions about what happened to Nord Stream a "Kremlin talking point." Wow. Could it be they were lying? Oh, yes, they were lying. Oh, they were lying.

"The Washington Post," of all places, now reporting and we're quoting, "some Western officials now doubt the Kremlin was responsible." Oh, you think? There is, "no conclusive evidence that Russia is behind the Nord Stream attack." Okay, so it's a binary here.

It's Russia against a Western coalition led by the United States. So either Russia blew up the Nord Stream pipeline or the Biden administration had a hand in blowing up the Nord Stream pipeline. Those are your two options.

So if Russia didn't do it, then the people who suggested maybe the Biden people were behind it were a hundred percent right.

So you'd think in a free country, in a democracy, you would get to discuss that in public, but you can't, and the press corps is not going to help you. They don't ask questions. We don't have that anymore. Here's what we have.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOHN BERMAN, CNN ANCHOR: Politicians and the press often toss around comparisons to Winston Churchill. But this time, minus the cigar and the whiskey, it fits.

ANA CABRERA, CNN ANCHOR: President Biden face-to-face with the man who has drawn comparisons to Winston Churchill.

ANDREA MITCHELL, MSNBC: And in a dramatic wartime appearance reminiscent of Winston Churchill in World War II.

HILLARY CLINTON, FORMER US SECRETARY OF STATE: This was historic. Some people have compared it to when Churchill came.

JON MEACHAM, PRESIDENTIAL HISTORIAN: Zelenskyy is very much acting in the Churchillian tradition.

JONATHAN LEMIRE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT: What could be a Churchillian moment.

MAJ. JOHN SPENCER (RET), URBAN WARFARE STUDIES CHAIR, MADISON POLICY FORUM: I mean, he is a modern Winston Churchill with an iPhone.

SEN. JACK REED (D-RI): Someone who probably is the most courageous and inspirational leader since Winston Churchill.

SEN. CHUCK SCHUMER (D-NY): Where Winston Churchill stood generations ago, so too President Zelenskyy stands.

BERMAN: So you're almost saying that Zelenskyy has had a harder job than Churchill had?

MARGARET HOOVER, POLITICAL COMMENTATOR: That's exactly what I'm saying.

GEN. BARRY MCCAFFREY (RET): This is a historical figure. This guy actually can be compared to Winston Churchill, to Lincoln in 1860.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: So that kind of solves a mystery from last night. How can any self-respecting American sit there when some foreign dictator shows up wearing his workout clothes in the US Congress and starts demanding, with a very apparent lack of gratitude, that we send him tens of billions of dollars when we're

running out of money? How could you sit and put up with that? And then drapes a Ukrainian flag in our Congress. How could you put up with that?

Well, because you're not a self-respecting American. You have no self-respect. You have no dignity. You don't care.

You'll say anything. You'll tell any lie. You'll repeat any talking point.

And when someone from the DNC or the White House sends you a note by text, saying, "Compare him to Churchill," you do because you have no self-respect. That's the problem.

So while millions of Americans can't afford to go to the doctor and we have no border, our leaders and our media are imagining they're very close to Winston Churchill.

All right, so this is clearly some sort of weird psychodrama that our ruling class is engaging in that gives meaning to their otherwise barren lives. The problem is there are potential consequences that could end the world.

So the other day, Lindsey Graham came out, the Republican from South Carolina, and said that he agreed with Joe Biden and Zelenskyy. The real goal is not to move Russian troops out of Ukraine, back to pre-February borders. The real goal is regime change in Russia. Watch this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. LINDSEY GRAHAM (R-SC): How does this war end? When Russia breaks and they take Putin out. Anything short of that, the war is going to continue.

To ask the Ukrainians to give Russia part of their country after all this death and destruction is not going to happen. To signal a ceasefire, Russia will take the opportunity to rearm and come at them again.

So we're in it to win it. And the only way you're going to win it is to break the Russian military and have somebody in Russia take Putin out.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: So it's really hard to overstate how crazy this is. And you don't want to play shrink and wonder about, you know, what emptiness at the core of Lindsey Graham's personal life causes him to identify so strongly with a country he is not a citizen of. Something is going on there. But the effect is incredibly reckless and crazy.

Take out Putin. Putin is bad. Kill him. Fine. What happens then?

Well, the world's largest landmass falls into ungovernable chaos and that country has the world's largest nuclear arsenal. What happens to all those weapons? In a country with a lot of people who hate us.

Lindsey Graham has no idea. He doesn't care. He's not interested. He's not going to be here to find out.

And none of the lawmakers who clapped yesterday had any idea either. They're clapping for regime change. They're clapping for an uncertain and incredibly dangerous future. It's not getting the Russian military out of Ukraine, it is much more than that and they don't want to know more.

And you know what they don't care about? You. Your healthcare, your Southern border, your children, your schools, your country. They don't care.

Matt Gaetz is one of the very few Members of Congress as noted earlier, who didn't follow the rules and stand up and applaud like a seal as the foreign leader in a sweatshirt lectured our country. He joins us now to explain his thought crime.

Matt Gaetz, thanks so much for coming. How did you -- now, I'm going to -- you know what, I'm just going to channel Michael Beschloss here. First of all, how dare you, okay, when a foreign dictator shows up in the Congress on your knees, okay, that's what Americans do. Second, I'm going to ask you, how much do you love Putin that you didn't applaud last night?

REP. MATT GAETZ (R-FL): Well, let's start with Lindsey Graham. Lindsey Graham has no problem sending \$100 billion to Ukraine so that we can weigh in on which guy in a sweatsuit gets to rule Crimea.

I mean, I feel no compunction to go out and applaud some foreign leader from a historically corrupt country who is begging for more than the hundred billion dollars that the Congress is already set to send them.

Now, when President Trump said that America would never be a socialist country, you saw Democrats sit on their hands. But when we say you shouldn't send endless amounts of money to this place where we are exacerbating death and conflict, it is like we're traitors to the movement, because Lauren Boebert and I didn't stand up in some sort of North Korea style performance.

And it really makes you wonder, what was all of this for? I think that Mitch McConnell and Nancy Pelosi wanted to bring Zelenskyy there to the Congress to provide air cover for an otherwise totally indefensible spending bill. And you could see why Zelenskyy was in for the grift. He's got a lot riding on it, \$12.9 billion in this bill to prop up the Ukrainian economy. \$300 million for Ukrainian agriculture, another \$300 million for Ukrainian border patrol. And in the same bill, we are tying the hands of our own border patrol.

So Ukraine gets economic development, agriculture, Border Patrol, and we get racial equity mandates for us here at home. So Washington actually thinks that they should go to great lengths to keep Ukraine whole while at the same time funding the balkanization and division within our own country, and I'm not sorry that Lauren Boebert and I won't stand for it.

CARLSON: No. And by the way, I have much more respect for Maxine Waters, who I don't like and vehemently disagree with, because she's a fellow American. We're both citizens. We both grew up here.

This guy has nothing to do with our country. Get what he can, I get it. I'm not even mad at him. I am mad at the people who instinctively bow before some uppity foreigner demanding money that we don't have and they should be absolutely ashamed and anyone who criticized you for acting like an American should be doubly ashamed and that means you, Michael Beschloss, you crazy person you.

GAETZ: Well, Tucker, at least we found a flag the Democrats were willing to stand for on the floor of the United States Congress. That was a revealing moment.

CARLSON: Exactly. Exactly.

I appreciate your coming on, Congressman Matt Gaetz of Florida. Thank you.

GAETZ: Thank you.

CARLSON: Well, it's official, you knew this was coming, Sam Bankman-Fried has been, freed, sorry, can't resist. Bankman-Fried is out of jail after committing the largest financial fraud in modern history.

Today, he was released on \$250 million bail by Judge Gabriel Gorenstein. This is the same judge who led Bernie Madoff out of jail in 2008. Now, you're probably wondering, where did Sam Bankman-Fried get all of that money? Because just a couple of weeks ago, he claimed he only had a hundred grand in his checking account. Watch this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ANDREW ROSS SORKIN, CNBC: How much money do you got left at this point?

SAM BANKMAN-FRIED, FORMER CEO, FTX: I mean, I -- to my knowledge, like close to nothing.

SORKIN: What does that mean?

BANKMAN-FRIED: I mean, I based everything which is in the companies. I mean, it is --

SORKIN: You didn't put some money somewhere?

BANKMAN-FRIED: No, no. I don't have any, you know hidden funds here. Everything I have I am, you know, disclosing, and you know, I'm down to one working credit card left. I think it might be \$100,000.00 or something like that in that bank account.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: So where did the money come from? A quarter billion dollar bond. We've read is the highest in American history. How did he get out of jail? Apparently, it was all fake. It was for the headlines. This was just a signature bond, just sign their name no cash.

His parents who apparently used funds from this Ponzi scheme to buy \$120 million in real estate, we read that, too. They put up their personal home as collateral, not the \$120 million real estate portfolio they bought. Well, it is fake.

They're making you think that this guy is really being punished. There is no bail at all, actually, just a promise.

Meanwhile, Bankman-Fried's girlfriend has apparently flipped on him. To put all of this together, we go to Vivek Ramaswamy. He's the author of "Nation of Victims" and critically, a business guy in the world of finance, who actually understands this, unlike us.

Vivek, thanks so much for coming on.

So for the -- look, I don't wish anybody prison time, but you've got to compare how he's being treated to how people who trespassed in the Capitol two years ago have been treated, some of whom are still in jail, and you think maybe this is kind of an inside game? Maybe it is rigged?

VIVEK RAMASWAMY, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CONTRIBUTOR: Well, there is a trick here, Tucker, and you put your finger on it.

"The New York Times" incorrectly tweeted earlier this evening that he was released on \$250 million bail. That is dead wrong. It is a bond because \$250 million wasn't actually put up. It was just an equity interest in his parents' \$4 million home. So, it may as well have been literally --

CARLSON: So, it is like his business itself. It's totally fake.

RAMASWAMY: Exactly. That's the whole point. The whole thing is a smokescreen, it is an optical illusion. And why did they do it? It's because it makes the prosecutors look good. It makes them look like they're being tough, making the highest possible bond in American history.

Guess what? If he flees, it could have been \$10 trillion. Nobody is putting up that money. And the whole thing is a story of smokescreens from the do good smokescreen of SBF and effective altruism, and the good ESG scores. Now to the prosecutors just like SBF, pretending like they're participating in a modern Charles Dickens novel, where everyone is a caricature of themselves playing their own role and this was all about today, the prosecutors puffing their chest at something that was an optical illusion all the way down.

CARLSON: But why not? God, you're blowing my mind here and I'm trying -- I'm thinking like, what's real? Well, my children are real. God is real. This Perrier is real, but like everything else, it seems fake, I have to say.

But let me ask you why not treat him like the January 6th defendants? Why not like, punish him? He seems like someone who committed the biggest financial crime in history. Why would they want to be lenient on him?

RAMASWAMY: Well, look, he bought a partial insurance policy, Tucker. He did not buy the full insurance policy, but the partial insurance policy. He wants to be one of the good guys, advocating for effective altruism and responsible regulation, shelling out tens of millions of dollars of actually likely stolen money to the Democratic Party, flaunting it to become one of the good guys.

Now, I say it is a partial insurance policy because he actually pledged a billion, he only ended up ponying up \$30 million to \$40 million of that. So some Democrats were upset at him for it. But it's the genteel way the game is played.

In fact, prosecutors rarely actually will have reached this deal without quite possibly proposing it together with him with that consent. So everybody gets something out of the trade. He gets a nice little sweetheart bail/actual bond deal, while the prosecutors come out looking like they were tough. Everyone gets something out of the trade except the actual asymmetry in how we treat this defendant versus others.

CARLSON: That's so -- I mean, it is so distracting. All afternoon, I'm thinking where did he get the money? Where did he get the money? And then you realize as with his business, there is no money.

RAMASWAMY: There was no money. Amen. You got it.

CARLSON: Vivek, thank you so much for explaining that. Appreciate it.

RAMASWAMY: Good to see you.

CARLSON: Great to see you. So, so much grim news, we decided that for Christmas, we would put together a truly hilarious Christmas special and we have, we will show you a preview in just a minute.

As we told you a minute ago, "The Washington Post" for some reason is finally letting you know that actually the Biden administration really was behind the destruction of Nordstrom 2. Wow.

But they are also admitting the truth about COVID and the lockdowns. Really? So we've gone back, found one of our favorite guests from the height of COVID, the owner of Atilis Gym in New Jersey to explain his response to hearing what he knew was true already.

We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: Christmas is coming very soon. So in a departure from tradition and protocol, we decided to do something lighthearted and amusing, a Christmas Special on FOX Nation. Here's a preview of it.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOE BIDEN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: We hold these truths to be self-evident, sounds corny, not a joke. Think about it.

All men and women are created by -- oh, you know this -- you know the thing.

One nation, indivisible under God for real.

America is dead.

We have to take care of the cure, and that will make the problem worse no matter what.

He makes his wild claims and hopes -- he now hopes we don't notice what he said or won't remember, and when he does follow through, or doesn't do, with follow through the exact opposite.

We choose truth over facts.

And then in addition to that, in addition to that, we have to make sure that we -- we are in a position that --

I don't understand. I -- I just don't -- I can't fathom it.

The thing that I just don't quite understand --

Putin's kleptocrac -- yes, kleptocracy -- klep -- the guys is leading a kleptocracy.

But my point is this -- I think that -- and I was talking to --

You know, the rapidly rising in with -- with -- I don't know. And -- and so, we have to --

Keep alive the truth and honor of the Holocaust --

For two reasons. One, to --

America is dead. America is dead.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: Well, it is our Christmas Special and it will amuse you and take your mind off a lot of other things. It's on "Tucker Carlson Originals" out right now on FOX Nation.

So "The Washington Post" right before Christmas when no one is paying attention is finally admitting some truths, out of character for them. It turns out Russia did not blow up its own natural gas pipeline, the Biden administration was behind that. Duh.

But they're also being a little more honest about COVID. They're finally conceding that it is vaccinated people, not unvaccinated -- the vaccinated who make up the majority of deaths from COVID. Did you know that? Its readers now do.

And they're also saying, furthermore, that regular exercise protects people from dying of COVID, so the obvious question is, why did we lockdown all the gyms and threatened put their owners in prison? And that's a question the owners of the Atilis Gym in New Jersey have been asking for years.

In August of 2020, they broke into their own gym to keep it open in defiance of the lockdowns.

[VIDEO CLIP PLAYS]

CARLSON: So, again, they weren't selling liquor, it wasn't a weed dispensary, it wasn't a strip club or a casino, they would have been open with the State's consent had it been any of those things. It was a gym. They just want to let people exercise. That was it. And they were threatened with prison for doing that.

Ian Smith was until recently one of the owners of the Atilis Gym. He is the author of the new book, "Find Your Hill." And we are always happy to have him on the show. He is back tonight.

Ian, thanks so much for coming on. So, I know you're not waiting around to be vindicated by "The Washington Post." But is it -- how does it feel to hear the obvious stated in public? Exercise is actually good for you.

IAN SMITH, AUTHOR, "FIND YOUR HILL.:" You know, Tucker, it's infuriating. You've had me on the show probably a dozen times, and I think you and I at least have had this conversation at least six times, it was something that we knew all along.

And, you know, I read this article, and they call it an eye-opening study. Nothing about this study is groundbreaking in any sense. In fact, the only -- it is elementary school level knowledge. You know, when I was in third grade, I was taught that exercise and eating right meant that I was going to be healthy and not get sick, and we all knew that going into 2020.

And for some reason, the established science was wiped clean and replaced by you know the experts of COVID, who did pretty much everything the opposite. You know, you said casinos and bars were open; gyms and churches were closed. They even close parks and oceans. And all of these things we know have a great benefit on your health, not just in respect to COVID, but in health overall.

And we watched Americans health declined over the last two years, while the government would not step back on these restrictions and held on to them in places like New Jersey and California and other blue states for as long as they possibly could, even when all of the science had been concluded.

CARLSON: I wish we had more than 30 seconds, but I just have to ask you like what do you think the motive was? Why would you continue to sell alcohol but not let people exercise, in the name of health, like why?

SMITH: You know, I think that we have to start asking that question and the American people need to start looking at COVID protocol and the reaction to COVID as a crime scene and not a series of mistakes by the government.

CARLSON: And pretty ominous, actually. I mean they were trying to hurt people and make them weaker, and we don't know all the facts yet with the vaccines and they did.

SMITH: Yes.

CARLSON: Ian Smith, I appreciate your coming on tonight. I'm glad you're not in jail. Thank you.

SMITH: Thank you.

CARLSON: So Canada is banning all guns because it is not a dictatorship. No. Calm down, conspiracy nut.

Justin Trudeau even banned the notorious butt master, you know, the Butt Master, many mass shootings, coming in with the Butt Master. What is the Butt Master?

Well, we found the guy who designed the Butt Master, whose firearm has just been banned, and we're going to ask him in just a minute: What's the Butt- Master? Why is it so dangerous?

We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: So Democrats have been huffing about Donald Trump's tax returns for years now, like six years now. When you see what is in his tax returns, personal cheques from Vladimir Putin, but you couldn't see them because people's tax returns are private. That's sacrosanct.

But not with Donald Trump because he's a bad man. So the normal laws don't apply and Congress has grabbed his tax returns, and then released them to the public. And you know what they show? They show that he got poor in public service, probably the only President in modern history who got poor while serving as President.

Compare that to Nancy Pelosi or Mitch McConnell, both of whom have gotten very rich, "public service," Trump lost tens of millions of dollars. So it's not really a bombshell. It's actually kind of a case for Trump, isn't it? How is it not?

How did Mitch McConnell get so rich? Does anyone ask that? No.

Good question, though.

But MSNBC is not going to let this story die because it's about Trump. They are, no, there's something criminal lurking in those tax returns, something the IRS just wasn't able to find.

So MSNBC decided to bring in the top expert in the world on hiding financial fraud from the IRS. No, it's not a forensic accountant. It's Al Sharpton.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

AL SHARPTON, MSNBC HOST: A lot of those contributions, I understand, he claimed that we're in cash, which is interesting in and of itself. Why was he making cash contributions? It is not the committee concerned about preserving the dignity and standards of the presidency that has been tainted by this Trump presidency?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: You've got to hand it to the MSNBC programming department. Someone has got to talk about tax fraud. Who do we have here? Anybody? Oh, Al Sharpton, who pleaded guilty to not paying taxes.

Then after that, got caught stashing his money in one of his companies for several years so the Feds wouldn't find it. Al was an FBI informant and then looted every charity he has run. His Harlem nonprofit, the National Action Network just paid him a million dollars in one year in salary.

Then, if you've been following his long and sordid and admittedly hilarious career, you'll recall the time that he admitted under oath that his Ministry purchased everything he owned, not himself, his Ministry, they purchased his watch and the Italian suits in his closet.

So he is the guy to assess Donald Trump's tax fraud.

Pretty funny? No? A little funny? It's pretty funny.

Well, Justin Trudeau has decided, like all dictators do, if you want a police state, you cannot let people defend themselves with firearms. So Canada has just banned virtually all firearms in the country that include handguns and hunting rifles.

Now Justin Trudeau doesn't know what side of the gun the bullet comes out of. He has no idea really what a gun is. You know it's his bodyguards who have a lot of them, but that's really it.

But he's against guns, so against them that Trudeau's government has just banned a gun called the Butt Master. Now, you may recall the name since so many mass shootings have been committed with the Butt Master. Actually, no, there really isn't a Butt Master. In fact, we think there's only one Butt Master in history, it was invented as a gag by a gun designer in Tampa, Florida 23 years ago, actually a fairly famous gun designer called Mark Serbu, who joins us right now.

So first of all, Mark, thank you for coming on. Congratulations on having the Butt Master banned by an entire country. But just tell us. The Butt Master was not designed for mass shootings, right?

MARK SERBU, GUN DESIGNER: No, I had no idea about mass shootings. Yes, they weren't as popular back then. But yes, it is causing quite a stink in Canada right now, isn't it?

CARLSON: So the Butt Master as far as I understand and I've watched the video, I kind of want one, but I don't think there any for sale, but the Butt Master is a single shot 22 long rifle with like a spring loaded striker. It's like the most primitive zip gun like in history, is that correct?

SERBU: Yes, it is very simple. And it's -- it is kind of nicer than the average pen gun that's out there. But yes, it is just one shot and as you saw, you've got to unscrew it and screw it back together. Can't talk -- screw it back together and I've actually got one right here or the only one right here.

CARLSON: The only one.

SERBU: Yes, that's it.

CARLSON: They are not even for sale.

SERBU: Yes, I think this is the one. Yes, the only one I've had in my possession for 23 years and somehow it made it on the banned list, which is absurd as you know, which is why we're talking about it.

CARLSON: So if they are even banning the Butt Master, the world's only Butt Master that really should be in the Smithsonian, and I hope it will someday be. Like, how did they even know the Butt Master exists? Who is doing their firearms research, do you think?

SERBU: Yes, that's the weird thing. You know, when I first got somebody in Canada sent me an e-mail, and they're like, oh, Mark Serbu, you're a god, this is amazing. I was like, master level trolling, and of course, I wasn't trolling from 23 years ago. But yes, at first, I thought, "Man, this is hilarious. It's awesome."

But if you look on official Canadian documentation and you see Butt Master and it's like, how could they be so inept to do that? It's like what staffer? You know, it's almost like a game of Clue. You know, it's like, you know, the idiot staffer with a laptop in the cubicle. You know, that's who did it.

But that's just part of the story. It has so many dimensions to it, you know, because obviously, Trudeau has been saying, oh, we're getting rid of weapons of mass death and destruction. It's like, well, here is something with one shot. What do you do? Run into a room and pull it out of your prison wallet and bang away with one shot while everybody beat you to death?

CARLSON: I guess, the good news is, he is a fascist, but he is also a buffoon, and that's the self-limiting effect of that. Mark, I appreciate you -- if you ever make the Butt Master, send us a couple --

SERBU: Oh, yes. we're probably going to do a run. So yes, we'll let you know.

CARLSON: Okay. Good. Call me. Thank you so much.

SERBU: Thanks very much. Take care.

CARLSON: Good to see you.

So Facebook announced fairly recently, if you were not allowed to ask any questions about 9/11 -- ever. No questions. But you know who has a right to ask questions about what happened on 9/11? The families of people were killed on 9/11, and a bunch of them have been suing Saudi Arabia. They want to know what was the level of the Saudi's government role in those attacks.

Now, the Biden administration says that all relevant documents have been declassified. That's not the same as all documents. What's going on here exactly? Why don't they just release it and tell us the truth?

We will investigate that, straight ahead.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: 9/11 was, well 21 years ago, but for a lot of people, it's still an open case. They don't know everything they need to know, and that would include the families of the people who died on 9/11, and for years they've been suing Saudi Arabia. They believe the Saudi government had a role in those attacks.

And they've been frustrated for years because the government won't declassify the information they need to make that case. Why are they hiding that?

So the Biden administration just came out fairly recently, they have just classified all relevant documents, and we wanted to know if that's true. So Brett Eagleson is the president of 9/11 Justice, his father died at the World Trade Center that day, and he has been leading the effort in Court to get to the truth.

Brett Eagleson joins us now.

Brett, thanks so much for coming on.

So the Biden administration made this big announcement: We're releasing all the relevant files. It is hard for a layman to know if all the relevant files had been released. Have they been?

BRETT EAGLESON, PRESIDENT, 9/11 JUSTICE: No, in fact, they haven't, and I will point to the most relevant files of all relevant files, are the 28 Saudi government official depositions that occurred in our lawsuit that's happening in the Southern District of New York.

There were 28 witness interviews conducted by Saudi Kingdom officials that we have a Judge and an FBI and the DOJ that ensures that those depositions never become public.

In fact, the most egregious thing is, is that 9/11 families can't even know what these witnesses said. Our lawyers can't even share that with us.

So we're under the sick and disgusting protective order, where you have a Judge -- two Judges, in fact, in the Southern District of New York, keeping everything about this case, under lock and key. It is by design.

The United States government, the Deep State of this government does not want America at large to know what the Saudi role was in 9/11, and we have been struggling for 21 years for a champion, for somebody

with a backbone to stand up against the thugs that are the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. And to this day, nobody has done it. From administration to administration, nobody has had the courage or the backbone to do what's right.

In the land of justice and democracy and freedom, no one -- no one has risen to that occasion, Tucker. It's atrocious.

CARLSON: Americans should be outraged by this. It was our country, 3,000 Americans were murdered that day. There is no justification for keeping any file pertaining to 9/11 secret. They complain about conspiracy theories. Why do we have them? Because they continuously lie to us from behind the veil of secrecy.

Quick question, is any Member of Congress carrying your banner on this?

EAGLESON: Well, I do want to give kudos to Congress today. They finally passed in a bipartisan way, Congress came together today in a very strong way, and they voted 94 senators to one to provide some modicum of justice to the victims of terror by and large, so I just wanted to say that kudos to Congress, but we need an administration or a government to stand up for us.

CARLSON: Yes, stop lying to us. Tell us the truth.

We'll be right back

Brett, thank you.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: We are out of time, but good news, Tammy Bruce is driving the "Hannity" train this evening. We go right to her.

Hey, Tammy.

TAMMY BRUCE, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Yes, bullet train here. Thank you, Tucker. It is great to see you.

Merry Christmas, sir.

CARLSON: Merry Christmas.

END

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HD **Lawmakers Debate Immigration Reform And Spending Bill; Founder Sam Bankman-Fried Makes Initial Court Appearance; Records Reveal FBI Reimbursed Company For Requests; Windchill Advisories Impact Million Across U.S.; Crossings Expected To Set New Record For November; Officials Brace For Title 42 End; Title 42 Hangs In Balance After Temporary Stay; House Republicans Release Their Own Report On January 6th Capitol Riots; Legal Proceedings Continue Concerning Challenge To Results Of Arizona Gubernatorial Election By Republican Candidate Kari Lake; Taliban Garner International Criticism For Banning Women From Higher Education; Large Numbers Of Immigrants Gather At U.S. Southern Border In Anticipation To Ending Of Title 42; Representative Nancy Pelosi Holds Final Press Conference At House Speaker**

BY Bret Baier, Peter Doocy, Connell McShane, Mike Emanuel, Mike Tobin, Chad Pergram, Jonathan Hunt, Trey Yingst

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LP

WILL CAIN, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: But have you seen two things together at the same time? (INAUDIBLE) the coach of Michigan state and he's an angry elf. He's an angry elf in this game.

KATIE PAVLICH FOX NEWS CHANNEL CONTRIBUTOR: That's awesome.

TD

CAIN: There you go. That was last night's game against Oakland.

JEANINE PIRRO, FOX NEWS CHANNEL LEGAL ANALYST: All right, that's it for us tonight, SPECIAL REPORT is up next. Hi, Bret.

BRET BAIER, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: You know, Judge, I think I saw a Gutfeld stuck in one of those claw machines once. I'm not sure.

PIRRO: Looking for a toy for Gus.

BAIER: Yes, you got it. We'll see you.

Good evening. I'm Bret Baier.

Cryptocurrency company owner Sam Bankman-Fried makes bail after extradition to the U.S. from the Bahamas.

Dangerous winter conditions affect tens of millions of Americans as the holiday travel season intensifies.

And women in Afghanistan take to the streets to protest the Taliban rule banning them from universities.

But breaking tonight, an omnibus spending bill to keep the government open is in the hands up the House right now tonight.

Senators earlier approved the measure today with all of that spending, \$1.7 trillion. One of the sticking points for the bill has been Title 42 asylum rules dealing with the southern border, illegal immigrants, due to expire but currently being preserved by the U.S. Supreme Court.

White House Correspondent Peter Doocy starts us off tonight live from the North Lawn. Good evening, Peter.

PETER DOOCY, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Good evening, Bret. Even though the Justice Department admitted this week there will be a temporary increase in unlawful border crossings if and when Title 42 goes away. There wasn't enough interest in the Senate today to do something about it.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOE BIDEN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: As tough as these times have been, if we look a little closer, we see bright spots all across the country.

DOOCY (voice over): As President Biden puts a bow on 2022.

BIDEN: I sincerely hope this holiday season will drain the poison that has infected our politics.

DOOCY: His most loyal partner in the Senate says Democrats will try immigration reform in the New Year.

SEN. CHUCK SCHUMER (D-NY): I think the Biden administration realizes it has to come up with a real plan for the border. That not just punitive or health oriented, you know Title 42 that has no consequences.

DOOCY: Title 42 could have remained but a Republican led amendment to make it the law on the land failed.

SEN. MIKE LEE (R-UT): For eight glorious minutes on the U.S. Senate for we had this amendment one. We had the votes necessary to pass an amendment to keep Title 42 alive.

DOOCY: Also disappearing, Arizona's border wall made of shipping containers, the Feds wanted it gone and the state says it will be by January 4th.

HECTOR GARZA, NATIONAL BORDER PATROL COUNCIL: I think their policies is to just process asylum seekers and illegal aliens quicker into this country so that we can release them under catch and release.

And unfortunately, catch and release is the magnet that is driving people to this country.

DOOCY: Border towns are bracing for as many as 14,000 migrants per day once Title 42 finally expires.

MAJ. SEAN STORRUD, TEXAS NATIONAL GUARD: So, as you can see here, basically, we've secured the border using the use of Humvees, concertina wire, and soldiers.

Basically what we're doing here is we're basically just redirecting the migrants to the only legal port of entry.

DOOCY: But we don't expect any new policies or new insight from the president on immigration until the New Year.

Mr. President, do you think the Southern border is secure?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

DOOCY (on camera): So, we still don't know which border crossers President Biden thinks should get to stay and which border crossers President Biden thinks should be expelled.

But we do know this humanitarian crisis that is brewing at the border is expected to get worse while most of the folks that work on Capitol Hill or here at the White House are home for the holidays, Bret.

BAIER: Peter Doocy live in the North Lawn. Peter, thank you.

We'll talk with the Texas governor in a bit about this.

A technology led sell off sent stocks tumbling today, the Dow lost 349, the S&P 500 fell 56, the NASDAQ dropped 233 today.

The founder of that collapsed cryptocurrency firm that sparked a growing investigation into the industry is back on U.S. soil tonight and out on bail.

Former FTX CEO Sam Bankman-Fried was extradited from the Bahamas last night and he's on his way home now to California.

Connell McShane of Fox Business joins us from New York with the latest. Good evening, Connell.

CONNELL MCSHANE, FOX BUSINESS NETWORK CHIEF NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Hi, good evening, Bret. The FTX founder was released on a \$250 million bail package here this afternoon. It was described by a prosecutor as the largest ever pretrial bond.

Now, Bankman-Fried have already agreed to waive his right to fight extradition and arrived here in the United States last night in the flight that came in from the Bahamas.

This morning, he was here in court in New York City for his initial appearance and mobbed by reporters and photographers on his way out and now he does head to California that's because he's been ordered to stay at his parents' house there while he awaits trial.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Back up. Back up. Get out of my car.

MCSHANE: What do you say to your investors who have lost so much?

No answer for my question there and really little or no expression. In the courtroom today, either from Bankman-Fried as he was seated in between two of his lawyers, shackles on his ankles, listening as the prosecutor Nicholas Roos called his alleged crimes "a fraud of epic proportions", and said the evidence includes testimony from multiple cooperators. One will be a former colleague and girlfriend Caroline Ellison.

She's now the former CEO of the crypto trading firm Alameda Research. She pleaded guilty to seven criminal counts and the FTX co-founder Gary Wang pleaded to four of his own.

Both are now cooperating with investigators which could strengthen the case against Sam Bankman-Fried, he was not asked to enter a plea of his own today, he was only told that his next court appearance will be on January 3rd.

He faced his eight federal counts here in New York accused of defrauding his own customers, lenders and investors, Bret.

BAIER: Connell, do we know where he got the money for the bail? I mean, he said that he went from 20 billion to 100,000 at one point in one of those interviews.

MCSHANE: All we know is that his parents' home was used as collateral, so his parents had to put up their home as collateral for the bail and that was all we were told in terms of how it was secured, but the \$250 million again, we've never seen anything like this.

When Bernie Madoff walked out those doors behind me in 2009, that was a \$10 million bond. This is 250 million.

BAIER: Yes, pretty amazing. Connell, thank you.

There is no reaction tonight to revelations the FBI paid millions of dollars to Twitter to help control information before it's purchased by Elon Musk.

The bureau says it did nothing wrong. Not everyone sees it that way. Here's Chief Washington Correspondent Mike Emanuel.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MIKE EMANUEL, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CHIEF CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENT (voice over): FBI officials say they did not provide Twitter with any specific instructions or details regarding the Hunter Biden laptop story. When asked by Fox News if those officials are saying the bureau provided no information to Twitter related to Hunter Biden or Russian influence and Hunter Biden, the FBI would only say "We focus on activities attributed to foreign actors, not on the content or narrative and we did not discuss or provide instruction regarding Hunter Biden's laptop or associated media coverage".

On allegations that the FBI and backchannel communications with Twitter attempted to suppress or spike the Hunter Biden story. The FBI responded, we did not request anything of the sort.

A House Oversight Republican says he'd like to ask FBI officials those questions and more under oath.

REP. BYRON DONALDS (R-FL): The FBI had the information, but they were telling social media companies to do what they could to tamp down on it and to not let that information out. Without a shadow of a doubt, that is interfering in an election.

EMANUEL: In the latest release of the so called Twitter files, it revealed the FBI paid social media companies. Independent journalist Michael Shellenberger quoted internal documents, I am happy to report we have collected \$3,415,323 since October 2019 reports an associate of Jim Baker in early 2021.

Baker is Twitter's former deputy general counsel and before that was the top lawyer at the FBI. FBI officials tell Fox the money was for reasonable costs and expenses associated with their response to illegal process.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

EMANUEL (on camera): FBI officials say Twitter is not the only social media company it has paid but would not elaborate on any others or how much has been spent, Bret.

BAIER: Mike, thank you.

A winter weather system bringing snow, wind and extremely cold temperatures is making its way across the Midwest right now.

The National Weather Service says wind chill advisories will affect about 135 million people in coming days. Forecasters expect the so-called bomb cyclone to develop near the Great Lakes, that occurs when atmospheric pressure drops quickly in a strong storm.

The weather system is affecting the travel plans of tens of millions of people who are trying to get away for the holidays.

Senior Correspondent Mike Tobin is at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago tonight. Good evening, Mike. There could be some upset people there.

MIKE TOBIN, FOX NEWS CHANNEL SENIOR CORRESPONDENT (on camera): There certainly could be in here. In Chicago, they're expected to get the worst of it and the flight cancellations are materializing.

262 flights thus far had been canceled out of O'Hare. 116 out of Midway. Nationwide, 2,271 domestic flights have been canceled and millions of people are just trying to make it home.

Nature chose one of the busiest times of the year to uncork winters fury, leaving many travelers with nowhere to rest but the floor of the terminal.

Even where the weather had not turned bad, some people got the news their flight was canceled, because the weather was bad at the destination.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: They changed my gate, then they canceled my flight. So, I got to go back down here, rebook or either refund.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I'm not optimistic if they already had canceled flight for later in the day, so it's not looking good.

TOBIN: Denver in the Twin Cities seem to get the storm first while security lines pushed across the terminal at Minneapolis St. Paul, the ripple of delays and cancellations caused lines to wrap around the corner at LaGuardia.

Atlanta's Hartsfield Jackson also saw crowds pile up while the snow accumulated elsewhere. But with a prediction of wind gusts reaching 50 miles per hour in places like Chicago driving the windshield to negative 30 and drastically reducing visibility.

The storm has the potential to be much more severe than a travel disruption.

BIDEN: Please take this storm extremely seriously. And I don't know whether your bosses will let you, but if you all have travel plans, leave now.

TOBIN: For millions of people whose lives have been disrupted by years of pandemic trying to reconnect with family for the holidays, it can mean canceled plans again, at best to delay.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Everybody just needs to know that be patient, give the - - give the airlines time to get properly iced. Understand that we're going to get you there as efficiently and as safely as we can.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

TOBIN (on camera): As predicted, the temperature took a dive this afternoon. It's now 10 degrees with a negative five degree windshield. It's hard to see because of all the blowing snow. The roads are icing up and it's only getting colder and windier. Bret, back to you.

BAIER: Mike Tobin live at O'Hare. Mike, thanks.

Up next, we'll talk live with Texas Governor Greg Abbott about the crisis along the southern border.

First, here's what some of our Fox affiliates around the country are covering tonight. Fox 30 in Jacksonville as a bear escapes an exhibit at the Florida zoo and attacks a zookeeper before being fatally shot by workers.

It happened last night at the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens. The zookeepers injuries were not considered life threatening.

Fox 23 in Albany as New York State large legislators vote themselves at 29 percent raise, it would make them the nation's highest paid state lawmakers.

Members of the State Assembly and Senate would make a base salary of \$142,000 if the bill passes during a special session.

And this is a live look at Santa Monica from Fox 11. One of the big stories out there in California, Justin Bieber is closing in on sealing a \$200 million deal to sell his music rights.

Multiple media reports say it would be the largest acquisition to date for the Hypnosis Company, which earlier bought the rights to Justin Timberlake's music for \$100 million. It's a lot of money.

That's tonight's live look outside the Beltway from SPECIAL REPORT. We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BAIER: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the CDC says nearly 107,000 Americans died of drug overdoses last year.

That's almost 16 percent higher than nearly 92,000 overdose deaths in 2020.

Overdoses are considered in the accidental injuries category, which was the number four cause of death in the country.

Heart disease remains at the top of the list followed by cancer and then COVID-19. U.S. life expectancy fell to about 76 years and five months.

As Bill Melugin reported last night, we are 22 days into December and the Biden administration still has not released border numbers for November.

The Border Patrol union says agents made 209,000 migrant apprehensions in November. That would be the highest November ever recorded following up record numbers for October.

The border council report 67,000 Title 42 expulsions in November; 142,000 releases.

Now, obviously, a lot of questions about those numbers and what happens next.

Joining us now to discuss the border crisis is Texas Governor Greg Abbott. Governor, thanks for being here.

GOV. GREG ABBOTT (R-TX): Of course, thank you.

BAIER: How does this end? You know, we've been covering it for a long, long time, we've been really detailing all of the numbers and what's happening there at the border. But how does it come to an end?

ABBOTT: Well, to be honest, Bret, that the end is very clear and easy, because President Trump was able to implement measures that stopped illegal border crossing more than any other president ever has.

It was just 2-1/2 years ago, we had the lowest number of border crossings since last century. As because he did four things. He eliminated Catch and Release, he implemented Title 42 and the Remain in Mexico policy, and he built the border wall. That's all that needs to be done.

And all that Biden needed to do was to continue on what President Trump had put in place. Instead, he had eliminated everything that President Trump put in place. And he is now implemented, what are considered to be open border policies that are allowing people from more than 150 different countries across the globe to be attracted to our border.

BAIER: We've heard all kinds of things from the administration. From the White House podium, saying, Congress needs to act, it's not the administration.

All kinds of things about rhetoric and what people are saying and doing.

I had the secretary of Homeland Security on Fox News Sunday back in May, and listen to the this exchange about motivation.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: Visit the objective of the Biden administration to reduce -- sharply reduced the total number of illegal immigrants coming across the southern border.

ALEJANDRO MAYORKAS, SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY: It is the objective of the Biden administration to make sure that we have safe, legal, and orderly pathways.

BAIER: And one thing that would help you deport more illegal immigrants that Congress could do?

MAYORKAS: What we are talking about when we talk about legislation, is building the orderly legal pathways for people to obtain relief under our laws.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: Now, when you hear that, Governor, what do you hear? Do you hear that they want to stop illegal immigration?

ABBOTT: Well, one thing we hear is no words rhetoric or anything whatsoever about stopping illegal immigration or stopping people from coming across the border. Another thing that I hear is non-compliance with the law.

The law requires the federal government, especially, the secretary of homeland security, to remove from the United States, anybody who is here illegally, and the Biden administration is refusing to apply that law and remove people who were in the United States illegally.

BAIER: You know, earlier, in the summer, into the fall, there were a number of migrants from that area. And Texas, in particular, bussed to different cities, Washington, D.C., New York City, Chicago, Philadelphia.

You took some pushback from the mayor of New York about the migrants that ended up there. Take a listen.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ERIC ADAMS (D), MAYOR OF NEW YORK CITY: For people who are coming here to seek the assistance that they need. I mean, it's unimaginable come to a country, your first visit here, someone is throwing you out, as the governor of Texas is doing. And then trying to navigate this complex country to deliver your services. And we're doing a good job in doing that.

BAIER: Democrats said this is a political stunt. How do you respond?

ABBOTT: Well, first, what a political stunt is, is what the administration is doing by ignoring the fact that people are coming across the border illegally, every single day.

And so, what Texas has to do, we have to respond to what's happening on the ground. The only people that we are busing are the people that the Border Patrol has already processed their papers, allowing them to legally remain in the United States of America, who are overwhelming small little towns on the border that have no capability whatsoever of dealing with those migrants.

New York, Chicago, Washington, D.C. are not only sanctuary cities, but they are far more capable, and have far more resources to house and take care of those migrants who have come across the border.

They are self-declared sanctuary cities, it's time they step up and start doing their job

BAIER: On Title 42, as it is scheduled to come to an end. Right now, it's on a temporary hold. There is word that Congress may try to put in a permanent Title 42 into law.

Do you know how this is going to come to an end? Have you talked to anybody on the federal level on this front about that? That possibility?

ABBOTT: Sure. Listen, I've talked to members of Congress, and we're hoping that they will be able to insert language like that it would be very simple to codify what President Trump put in place, which is Title 42.

But if they were able to do that, that should, if it were implemented by the Biden administration, dramatically decrease the number of people coming across the border illegally.

BAIER: And are you as a state doing something different than you were because of the influx that you're seeing in recent days?

ABBOTT: We are. And you have seen and Bill Melugin has reported, one thing, for example, is what the National Guard is doing.

The National Guard took over what was operate and controlled by the federal government there in El Paso to prevent those migrants from being able to enter illegally.

They're doing the same thing in other parts of the state and they are turning back people who are trying to cross into the state of Texas illegally.

And today, I posted pictures, we are building more of our own border wall in the state of Texas, wall materials that were left behind by the Trump administration.

So, Texas is building our own border wall. We're going after the cartels, which I have declared as terrorist organizations and we have the National Guard, repelling and turning back people trying to enter our country illegally.

And you will see beginning tomorrow at that location, El Paso, massive fencing going up in that area to prevent people from entering illegally.

We're going to have our National Guard working on tomorrow and Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. I want to thank our National Guard working on Christmas Day so that Americans will be able to enjoy their Christmas.

BAIER: Yes, thanks for their service. And we appreciate your time. Governor, Merry Christmas.

ABBOTT: Merry Christmas to you also, Bret. Thank you.

BAIER: When we come back, the Republican preemptive reaction to the final report by the Capitol riot January 6 committee. And later, Speaker Nancy Pelosi's final news conference as Speaker of the House.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BAIER: Breaking tonight, Florida's Supreme Court has granted the request from Governor Ron DeSantis for a grand jury investigation of COVID-19 vaccines. The panel can investigate pharmaceutical manufacturers, their executive officers, and other medical associations or organizations involved in the vaccines. The order also refers to other criminal activity that is part of an organized criminal conspiracy. DeSantis says he wants legal accountability for those who committed misconduct. The director of the Institute for Bioethics and Health Policy at the University of Miami calls the decision preposterous.

Tesla is offering \$7,500 discounts on Model 3 and Model Y electric vehicles delivered in the U.S. this month. That's according to the company's website. This comes amid concerns the automaker is facing softening demand as the economy struggles.

We are awaiting the final report from the Democratic led House Committee investigating last year's Capitol riot of January 6th. Republicans are already sharing their conclusions, a different report. Senior congressional correspondent Chad Pergram is on Capitol Hill tonight with the latest. Good evening, Chad.

CHAD PERGRAM, FOX NEWS CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENT: Bret, House Republicans issued their own reports on security failures at the Capitol. They took aim at House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and the former Sergeant at Arms Paul Irving.

(BEGIN VIDEO TAPE)

REP. KELLY ARMSTRONG, (R-ND): It is clear that the Democrats, and particularly the sergeant at arms in the Speaker's office, prioritized optics over operational security when they knew they had information here that made the Capitol a potential threat on January 6th.

PERGRAM: House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy yanked GOP members from the committee after Pelosi nixed two of McCarthy's picks. Pelosi allowed GOP members Adam Kinzinger and Liz Cheney to serve on the 1/6 panel. Jim Jordan was one of the members Pelosi booted. Republicans said Irving only took direction from Pelosi.

REP. JIM JORDAN, (R-OH) HOUSE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE RANKING MEMBER: We get to that day when violence breaks out, and it looks like that the sergeant of arms couldn't do what everyone knew needed to be done, get the National Guard here, until he ran it through Pelosi's staff.

PERGRAM: The minority report also said Capitol police were ill-prepared to quell the riot. We are still waiting for the 1/6 committee to release its report.

REP. BENNIE THOMPSON, (D-MS) CHAIRMAN, JANUARY 6th SELECT COMMITTEE: I think you will see that it's very comprehensive, that it's thorough in its presentation, and it will be available to the public at large, both the printed and the digital version.

(END VIDEO TAPE)

PERGRAM: The committee planned to release the report Wednesday. Bret?

BAIER: Chad, today was the last news conference for Nancy Pelosi as Speaker of the House.

PERGRAM: That's right, Pelosi's tenure is nearly done, but she remains in Congress as a rank and file member. It's unclear who may succeed Pelosi as speaker. Kevin McCarthy hopes to get the votes when the GOP takes control next year.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

PERGRAM: Might you be the last speaker for a while until they pick a speaker?

NANCY PELOSI, (D-CA) HOUSE SPEAKER: No, I think they will have a speaker. I hope that they would be able to resolve their differences on January 3rd and just come through with -- with a vote to proceed.

PERGRAM: It doesn't weaken the House if it takes a few days?

PELOSI: No. We are a democratic institution. I do think the sooner the better because we have important work to do.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PERGRAM: Pelosi described the speakership as having a, quote, awesome power. She intends to remain influential. Hakeem Jeffries succeeds Pelosi as Democratic leader. Bret?

BAIER: We can count on you in that seat asking those questions no matter who it is. Chad, thank you.

We have update from the legal proceedings concerning the challenge to the results of last month's Arizona gubernatorial election. We have been following this, bringing it to you as developments warrant. Chief correspondent Jonathan Hunt is following the case. Good evening, Jonathan.

JONATHAN HUNT, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Good evening, Bret. On the final day of this two-day trial both sides in the lawsuit called what they termed polling experts and, unsurprisingly, perhaps, those experts gave very different views of what happened and could have happened on Election Day in Arizona. Attorneys for defeated Republican gubernatorial candidate Kari Lake called Richard Baris to the stand. Baris is a podcaster and pollster, and he told the court that the Election Day printer problems in Maricopa County, the most populous in Arizona, were critical to the election results.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

RICH BARIS, PLAINTIFF WITNESS: The number is substantial enough to have changed who the overall winner was in this race.

KURT OLSEN, LAKE ATTORNEY: Are you saying plaintiff Kari Lake would have won this race but for the Election Day chaos?

BARIS: I have no doubt. I believe that strongly. It's my opinion that strongly, yes.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HUNT: Attorneys for Governor-elect Katie Hobbs, who is currently secretary of state, cast doubt on the validity of Baris's polling work, and their own polling expert said Baris was flat wrong.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

LALITHA MADDURI, HOBBS ATTORNEY: Is there any reason to believe that the tabulator issue on Election Day in Maricopa County prevented or discouraged enough voters sufficient to change the outcome of the election?

KENNETH MAYER, DEFENSE WITNESS: No. Again, not only is there no reason to think that that had happened, the available data suggests conclusively that that did not happen.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HUNT: Kari Lake, who has previously vowed to take her fight to overturn Katie Hobbs' victory all the way to the Supreme Court has been attending this hearing but has not given any interviews or spoken publicly since it got underway. Bret, closing arguments wrapped up unjust moments ago in the court. The judge said he now needs to go over everything, but has promised a quick decision. In theory, it could come as early as tonight. But he has promised whatever happens it will be no later than Tuesday. Bret?

BAIER: Whatever happens, we'll cover it. Jonathan, thanks.

When we return, women in Afghanistan protest the Taliban decision to ban them from universities.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BAIER: While the U.S. is by far providing the most assistance to Ukraine, there are eight countries who are providing greater shares of their gross domestic product in aid to that country. The top four are eastern European countries, include Estonia, Latvia, Poland, Lithuania. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy made a stop in Poland on his way back from the U.S. He met with Polish leaders to discuss what were called strategic plans for the future.

Meantime, President Vladimir Putin says he wants an end to the war in Ukraine. Putin says Russia does not want to, quote, spin the flywheel of military conflict but to end it.

The head of the U.N. nuclear watchdog met today with Russian officials. The U.N. is trying to set up a protection zone around a Russian occupied nuclear power plant inside Ukraine.

Russian and Chinese warships are practicing joint action in the East China Sea. The two nations are continuing a series of drills that reflect a growing defense cooperation. Meantime, Taiwan's defense ministry says China's military also sent 39 planes and three ships toward that island in a 24-hour display of force. Taiwan says it monitored the Chinese moves through its land-based missile systems as well as on its own Navy vessels.

The Taliban's education minister says women are being barred from attending universities in Afghanistan to avoid the mixing of genders and because he believes some subjects being taught violated the principles of Islam. Women there are demonstrating against the decision and countries around the world are condemning the ban. Correspondent Trey Yingst has the latest from our Middle East bureau.

(BEGIN VIDEO TAPE)

TREY YINGST, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Afghan women marched through the streets of Kabul in protest days after the Taliban banned them from attending higher education. They are determined to have their voices heard.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE (through translator): When the doors of schools are closed for the women who are half of the society, it means that the process of human evolution and development is paralyzed in this society.

YINGST: The decision that is set to go into effect immediately is drawing widespread condemnation from the international community. The U.N. special rapporteur to Afghanistan calling it a new low, further violating the right to equal education, and U.S. State Department Spokesperson Ned Price condemning the move as indefensible.

NED PRICE, STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN: This unacceptable stance will have significant consequences for the Taliban and will further alienate the Taliban from the international community and deny them the legitimacy they desire.

YINGST: Rights for women in Afghanistan have slowly been rolled back since the Taliban takeover in August of 2021. Their strict interpretation of Islamic law now forces females to have a male escort when out at night and keep their hair covered in public. Other Muslim majority countries like Saudi Arabia and Turkey have weighed in on the Taliban's version of Islam, slamming the recent restrictions to education.

MEVLUT CAVUSOLGLU, TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER (through translator): The barring of female students from attending university is neither Islamic or human. Therefore we reject such a ban. We do not find it right. Hopefully, they will give up on this decision as soon as possible.

(END VIDEO TAPE)

YINGST (on camera): Today, former President Bush released a statement in support of Afghan women, saying their treatment as second class citizens should generate outrage New England all of us. Bret?

BAIER: Trey Yingst in our Middle East bureau. Trey, thanks.

Up next, the panel on our interview with Texas Governor Greg Abbott border crisis and Title 42, plus the anticipation for the Capitol riot committee's final report, Republicans and Democrats.

First, Beyond our Borders tonight. The U.S. and South Korea announce plans for more than 20 drills next year. The news comes just days after North Korea resumed weapons testing, firing two ballistic missiles over international waters.

And this is a live look at Tokyo. One of the big stories there tonight, capybaras at a zoo in Japan take a yuzu bath to drive away the cold. Take a look at that. It happened today during the winter solstice. The zoo is the first place in Japan to arrange yuzu baths for capybaras, an animal that does not tolerate cold well. So this will keep them warm. It has kept the tradition for about 40 years. Looks warm.

Just some of the stories Beyond our Borders tonight. We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: There's not enough work stations for the workflow for border patrol. They are already overwhelmed. The ending of Title 42 is just going to make it worse for them.

MARK DANNELS, (R) COCHISE COUNTY, ARIZONA, SHERIFF: We are kind of on our own out here. Again, this is like the forgotten border. But sadly, this is America's border.

CLAUDIA RODRIGUEZ, EL PASO, TEXAS, CITY COUNCIL: El Paso is a blue city. We voted for President Biden. He needs to come down here and really see the destruction, really see the chaos, really see people living on the streets. It's really bad.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: It's not getting any better on the southern border as we are days away from Title 42 expiring if it doesn't get held up either by congressional action or by court order. Meantime, the governor of Texas on this show a short time ago.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

GOV. GREG ABBOTT, (R) TEXAS: All that Biden needed to do was to continue on what President Trump had put in place. Instead, he eliminated everything that President Trump put in place and he has now implemented what are considered to be open border policies that are allowing people from more than 150 different countries across the globe to be attracted to our border.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: Harvard-Harris poll just asked people what they thought about Title 42, whether it should continue or not. Understanding these are the asylum rules that allow the government to kick out immigrants coming over. The poll said 79 percent continue. But interestingly also asked folks the number of migrant border crossing per year, what do you think it is, 250,000 to 500,000? You see the breakdown there. Most people think it's 18, 20 percent, up to 1 million. Six percent think it's 2 million to 3 million. It was actually 2,378,000. Yes, 2.3 million in fiscal year 22.

Let's bring in our panel, Harold Ford Jr., former Tennessee Congressman, co-host of THE FIVE, Mara Liasson, national political correspondent of National Public Radio, and Guy Benson, political editor at Townhall.com, host of "The Guy Benson Show" on FOX News Radio.

Yesterday, Guy, Henry Cuellar, Democrat from Texas, said he thought the Biden administration was going to be able to do something to change the dynamic. Now we're hearing legislation possibly to get into Title 42 mix to continue it legislatively, maybe in this omnibus bill. Where do you think we are here, because the situation is ugly along the border?

GUY BENSON, POLITICAL EDITOR, TOWNHALL.COM: It's dire. It's worse than it has been and it was already a catastrophe. And so far the message from the administration has been we don't really care. Right? They have their recited talking points that they read out of binders about how this is the Republicans' fault and let's pass legislation or what have you. They ultimately have tools at their fingertips to make this a lot better. They refuse to use them for political reasons. And their expectation is that they won't pay much of a price for it.

And I think the poll you just put up, that was fascinating. Only six percent of the American people understand the scope of this problem because it is not being treated like the crisis that it is by many in the media allied with this administration. And as long as that continues, perhaps there won't be much of an incentive for this president to even pretend that he gives a damn about what is happening on his watch, under his policies.

BAIER: I will say, I will say in just recent days there has been more media coverage, Harold, and along the border. Other networks who hadn't been there before had people down there, and now they are surprised about what's happening, or at least they acted on some of the commentary.

"Wall Street Journal" op-ed, "Immigration, Biden's Title 42 catastrophe. The Biden Democrats arrived in January, 2021, with one fixed idea -- whatever Mr. Trump did, reverse it. Among his first acts was to crack open the southern border, and then he abandoned it. Though asked hundreds of times, no one in the Biden administration, not Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas or White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre has ever given a clear explanation of what their border policy is."

And Harold, I played that soundbite from Secretary Mayorkas from FOX NEWS SUNDAY earlier in the show.

HAROLD FORD JR., FORMER TENNESSEE REPRESENTATIVE: I saw that. First, thanks for having me, and merry Christmas again. There are three parts of this, and I understand Guy's frustration. I'm frustrated also. I hope that one of the first things, HR-1, which is the first bill any new Congress proposes, I hope it is serious and smart and drastic. By drastic, I mean it really goes after reforming our asylum process, because there are three parts of this. The border where you have drugs. You have sex traffickers. You have gang bangers. You have others including terrorists, violent terrorists coming across. You have an asylum process that just needs to be reformed. You shouldn't be able to show up and just say things are bad at home and I want to come here.

And three, we need some predictability around what workers and what students are able to stay in our country. Democrats and Republicans alike have a responsibility for this. I was pleased a little bit to hear some cooperation, it sounds like, between Republicans and Democrats who want to figure out ways to collaborate and really develop some consensus with our hemispheric partners. We spent trillions around the globe over the last 25 years, rightly so, stabilizes other parts of the world. We should do it here.

But without question, I hope that President Biden and Vice President Harris, when I was in Congress President Bush and President Clinton, President Bush in particular, used to show up, or Vice President Cheney would show up in Iraq or Afghanistan. I hope we wake up one morning and see Vice President Harris and President Biden one of them at the border, not only listening but talking to those having to be on the frontline. I think going back to Washington, working with Republicans and their party alike to get us a reform plan, because we desperately, desperately need one.

BAIER: There are things, Mara, that they could do in executive way that they could change the dynamic. But do you think it was because of the election and they thought that immigration was a tough issue for them, that we haven't seen that border visit and since? And do you think that they're going to jump on this even though it's still a tough issue?

LIASSON: I don't know if they're going to send the vice president or the president to the border. That's a decision they have to make. There's a lot of politics around that, whether it's a good idea or a bad idea. But in the short-term, the next thing we are going to find out is if Title 42 is continued. As you said, it's something that uses public health information, COVID pandemic, to keep certain people out of the United States, if that's going to be passed by Congress.

Now, Republicans want a standalone vote on that. Some Democrats would like it to be part of an omnibus bill that doesn't need to get 60 votes in the Senate. So we'll see what happens there. It's something that is going to end shortly unless Congress does something about it. And it would be one more tool to get a handle at the border.

BAIER: Meantime, today was the last news conference for House Speaker Nancy Pelosi. Take a listen.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

NANCY PELOSI, (D-CA) HOUSE SPEAKER: The 117th Congress began with a violent assault on our democracy. And now we hear its conclusions. We have a vital roadmap ensuring justice will be done, and that this won't happen again.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: Guy, it's hard for me to believe that she is just going to be a rank-and-file member in the next Congress, but that's what we are being told. Your thoughts on her tenure as she steps down as speaker at the end of this week?

BENSON: A journalist asked her recently if she committed to carry out this term that she was just elected to not as the speaker of the House, and she was -- sort of bit the woman's head off. Don't ask me that, what a silly question. There are rumors out there that she has been looking around perhaps for other gigs in this country or beyond. We'll see what happens with now the current speaker, soon-to-be former speaker. She was speaker twice.

I think Republicans would say, even though they strongly disagree with her on virtually everything, she was an effective leader. She whipped the vote and counted votes very well. Wouldn't bring votes to the floor unless she knew she could win. Never got embarrassed that way. As a conservative that was often very frustrating. If the voting started, you knew she had it in the bag. And often I think that meant bad news for the country, but she was effective and has been a very effective leader.

BAIER: Mara, she could herd the cats.

LIASSON: Yes, she could herd the cat. That is the single most important thing for a speaker to do keep is make sure that they keep their troops in line. She had a tiny little majority, but she still kept Democrats in line and passed things on the floor. Now Kevin McCarthy, if he ends up being the speaker, is going to have a similarly tiny majority. We'll see what he can do with it.

BAIER: All right, panel, thanks so much. Merry Christmas.

FORD: Merry Christmas.

LIASSON: Merry Christmas.

BAIER: Finally tonight, a SPECIAL REPORT salute. A woman and her great granddaughter were aided by a group of good Samaritans and police after they were pinned underneath their car in Florida. The group used a hydraulic jack to lift the vehicle until emergency personnel had arrived. They were pinned under there, and firefighters were able to cut the child out, pull both her and her great-grandmother to safety in Florida. That is a good news story, and they are doing OK. That is -- that's great.

Tomorrow, on SPECIAL REPORT, a discussion about faith and worldwide liberty with a former Trump administration ambassador at large for international religious freedom, Sam Brownback, as we head into the Christmas weekend.

Thanks for inviting us into your home tonight. That is it for this SPECIAL REPORT, fair, balanced, and still unafraid. "JESSE WATTERS PRIMETIME" hosted tonight by the Judge Jeanine starts right now. And Judge, I accepted from "THE FIVE" from you, and now I toss to you.

END

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HD **Drivers Can't Find Addresses Covered By Christmas Decor; Most People Disapprove Of Holiday Sweet Treat; Massive Winter Storm Crippling Christmas Travel; Sam Bankman-Fried Released On \$250 Million Bond; Largest Ever Pre-Trial Bond: Sam Bankman-Fried Released On Record \$250M Bond; Paid To Stay Home: Welfare Benefits Pay More Than Middle Class Jobs; Big Brother Gone Too Far: Face Recognition Gets Mom Booted From Rockettes Show**

BY Jeanine Pirro, Jessica Tarlov, Will Cain, Katie Pavlich, Jimmy Failla, Kendall Smith

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REV. RUSS LEVENSON JR., RECTOR, ST. MARTIN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH: THE job of the faith is to draw large circles so that we're brought in to faith together and we've worked with that greater unity, that greater good that we're called to do.

NEIL CAVUTO, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Russ Levenson, thank you very much. The book is Witness to Dignity, as well as Finding Our Own.

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That'll do it here. THE FIVE is now.

JEANINE PIRRO, FOX NEWS CHANNEL LEGAL ANALYST: Hello, everyone. I'm Judge Jeanine Pirro, along with Jessica Tarlov, Will Cain, Katie Pavlich and Jimmy Failla. It's 5:00 in New York City and this is THE FIVE.

Christmas is so close, you can almost taste it, we're going to get to the news. But first, let's have a little fun, time for The Fastest.

Missing your holiday package? Just check your neighbor's house. During peak delivery season, data shows that the number of packages can reach around 100 million per day. And when the drivers cannot find your house number, they just hope they're leaving the parcels at the right place.

One driver explaining how he deciphers a confusing drop off saying "The middle house had a large A monogram on the door. And it matched the last name of the package, so I took my best guess and left it there."

OK, so when a case like that Jimmy, who's at fault? The driver or the person who doesn't have their address clearly out there?

JIMMY FAILLA, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: The driver every time.

PIRRO: Why?

FAILLA: I'll tell you why. And don't feel bad drivers. We have a president who can't even find the southern border. But stick with me. I'm kidding. That's the only cheap shot of the show. I love you. Happy holidays.

PIRRO: That's not a cheap shot, it's true.

(CROSSTALK)

FAILLA: All right, let's bring it in here, kids. Here's the problem. I'm speaking as an ex-cab driver. The problem with today's drivers is no one drives anywhere without looking at their phone first. They don't trust themselves to decipher which house it is.

Let me give you an example. I get picked up on 34th and sixth yesterday. So then I'm going up to 58th and sixth, he typed it into his phone.

I'm like, dude, the streets are numbered. Just go up. We're going to be fine.

PIRRO: Just go straight.

FAILLA: That's the problem. Get your face out of your phone. Look around at the world. You can count houses, I promise.

PIRRO: OK, Katie, have you had any problems with packages?

KATIE PAVLICH FOX NEWS CHANNEL CONTRIBUTOR: No, but I have a theory and this does not apply to all delivery drivers because they work very hard.

PIRRO: They do.

PAVLICH: And they have a lot to do especially when the weather is bad. And people get very upset and people ordered things last minute which does not help with getting them delivered on time.

But I was on a walk with my dog the other day, early in the morning 7:00 a.m. and I walked by an Amazon van and it smelled like marijuana, I mean it was hot box.

So, maybe they're miss-delivering them because they're not exactly in their right mind.

PIRRO: Very good point. Go ahead, Will.

WILL CAIN, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Jimmy's wrong.

FAILLA: Oh, bring it on, Cain.

CAIN: I take the side of the driver.

FAILLA: OK.

CAIN: First of all, if I get into a cab or an Uber, I want them to put it into their Google Maps or their Waze. It's not about direction, Jimmy, it's about traffic.

FAILLA: You're wrong though.

CAIN: I don't like when they get in there and they wing it. You don't know if there's traffic up ahead. And that little device is going to tell you what not you need to go around somewhere else.

PAVLICH: They ask you where to go and you're like, I don't know.

FAILLA: Let me tell -- let me explain the difference right here.

PIRRO: No, it's his turn.

FAILLA: OK, I was just rebutting. He just shot at me.

PIRRO: No, this isn't a rebutting show.

FAILLA: What kind of moderation is this?

PIRRO: Go ahead, Will.

CAIN: The Judge has spoken.

I take the side of the driver because if you see now people are getting fancy with the numbers on their houses these days, they're getting a little aesthetic, you can't see, they want to blend into the house.

I feel bad for the driver that drives up because I don't know I'm at 5311, 5315 I can't tell.

FAILLA: And let me ask you this. How bad would you feel if you had two cell phones coming from Verizon, and they didn't wind up at your house, they wind up at your neighbor's house and you went a week without a smartphone like I did.

CAIN: I feel like I need to fix the numbers on the front of my house.

FAILLA: Well, my numbers are fine. Are you telling me Jenny Failla is a bad font user? Now you're picking a fight here.

CAIN: Jenny, fix the numbers.

PIRRO: All right now, let's go -- let's go to Jessica. Jessica, have you ever had any problems?

JESSICA TARLOV, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CONTRIBUTOR: I did yesterday.

PIRRO: What happened? Tell us.

TARLOV: That somehow I always check the ask for delivery signature. Because I have a doorman and he will do that and then they can track it better. This, I don't know if it had been overwritten or I just missed it. It said no signature required.

I called downstairs and it said release and it was a present for some -- everything that's coming in right now is a present for somebody.

And he said, let me call the guy next door. Call the building next door, lo and behold, it was at that building and he said it happens all the time.

Now, is it the biggest deal in the world? No. Is it a huge injustice? No.

But my numbers are clear on the door of the building.

PIRRO: Wait, Jimmy.

FAILLA: Leave the Judge to that.

TARLOV: I won't show the audience because bad things will happen to me but I will show -- I don't think you're bad people, I just (INAUDIBLE) my address.

CAIN: You're winning.

PIRRO: You are winning. OK, so I got a package, it was in two weeks ago, and I come home, it's late. I open the box. I pick it up and I said I didn't ordered this. In fact, I wouldn't wear this.

So, I put the package, I close it and I look at it, it's for someone who lives that say the name of my street is maple, Sam maple syrup, now maple circle and they're maple lane. So now the burden is on me because the driver made a mistake.

FAILLA: He's got a delivery job.

PIRRO: And now I've got to close it up, repack it and then take it to the person at Maple lane.

TARLOV: I don't think you have to close it.

PIRRO: Well, do I leave it out in the rain?

TARLOV: No, I think you bring it back but I don't think you have to find the packing tape and --

FAILLA: Depending on what it is, you sound like a creep because you feel like you went through their stuff. I'm just telling you as a cab driver.

I delivered packages that if you've got the location wrong, they hit you.

PIRRO: This time of the year is perfect for snuggling up with a cup of hot cocoa to watch a classic holiday movie. Everyone has a favorite but a new survey declares 1983's "A Christmas Story" as the greatest festive film of all time.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: You'll shoot your eye out kid. Merry Christmas. Ho-ho- ho.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PIRRO: "A Charlie Brown Christmas" comes in at number two. And the third most popular movie is "It's a Wonderful Life".

All right, which one do you like the most?

TARLOV: So, "It's A Wonderful Life" of those three but I love Dr. Seuss's "The Grinch" a lot and "The Holiday" which I know is like the Cameron Diaz, Kate Winslet movie where they swap houses and everything works out for them.

PIRRO: OK, of those three.

CAIN: Of those three? No, that's not the rules. I know you're the judge. It hasn't to be those three.

PIRRO: All right, then what's your favorite?

CAIN: A couple of the chick flicks like "Love Actually", "The Family Stone", "I do". But the number one is "Bad Santa". No, it's "Christmas Vacation" without a doubt.

PIRRO: Oh, I love that, do you agree?

PAVLICH: No, "Diehard" is the best Christmas movie of all time. And it is a Christmas movie everybody. I also love "Home Alone" as a Christmas movie and I do out of the three like "Charlie Brown". But "Diehard" is number one, don't argue.

PIRRO: I agree with you on both counts. Go ahead, Jimmy.

FAILLA: "Home Alone" if it was made today, the parents would get arrested for child negligence, for like leaving a child abandoned. "Christmas Story" is the best. I'm glad it came in number one on the poll, although we still have to count the mail-in ballots.

But here's the thing. OK. The worst one is "Charlie Brown" for the same reason it's the best one. I love that movie. It's a seminal movie from my youth. And it has the greatest soundtrack, but it also has the one worst song. You know the song that sounds like you're dying of carbon monoxide poisoning in your garage. Christmas time.

PIRRO: Depressing. Yes, you're right.

All right, up next, everybody looks forward to sweet treats over the holidays. You already know that I do. But this fruit cake deserve a place on the dessert table. Fruit cake has become a holiday punch line with a majority of Americans disapproving of the dish.

But how many of us have actually tried it? Lucky for you, I have some right here. All right, who wants to try?

PAVLICH: Wow, it looks so delicious.

PIRRO: Lucky for you.

TARLOV: I don't like it. Because I lived in London for six years and they like only fruit cake.

PIRRO: Is that right?

(CROSSTALK)

CAIN: Nobody likes fruit cake. I'll just pretend to. It's like Christmas caroling.

Have you ever had anybody knocking on your door and actually Christmas Carol?

PIRRO: First of all, this weighs 10 pounds.

FAILLA: You want to know what it is? First of all, it's false advertising. It doesn't taste like fruit. It doesn't look like cake. It looks like it originated in a Wuhan lab. It's like a weapon you can hunt with and you're going to want to hunt down whoever got it for you. It's terrible. What are the -- what is that? is that gummy Bear?

PIRRO: Yes. You know what?

TARLOV: They're dried fruits but it's all booze.

PAVLICH: Of all the things you could have around Christmas time for dessert, the endless options, fruitcake is at the bottom of the list.

PIRRO: But the thing is I guess fruitcake is part of the like the legend. I mean, that started a long time ago and it's kind of come down through the - -

(CROSSTALK)

FAILLA: The reason Santa wanted to go to every house in America so he didn't have to stay home and eat Mrs. Clause's fruitcake, that's how it started.

CAIN: I think it's like the original power bar, in one bite and you're full.

PIRRO: You should be, there's 1,200 calories in that.

TARLOV: And you can keep it in your pantry for decades.

PAVLICH: I think fruitcake is another reason why America left the brits.

FAILLA: Well, it's nice because fruitcake can't go bad because it was never good.

PIRRO: All right, coming up next. A once in a generation winter storm is crippling Christmas traveled for millions.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOE BIDEN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: It's not like a snow day. You know when you're a kid. This is serious stuff. Please take this storm extremely seriously.

And I don't know whether your bosses will let you, but if you all have travel plans, leave now.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PAVLICH: President Biden warning about a dangerous bomb cyclone winter storm that's already crippling everyone's holiday travel plans. So far, over 15,000 flights have been delayed and a whopping 4,500 canceled. Let's take it over to Kendall Smith from Fox Weather. Kendall.

KENDALL SMITH, FOX WEATHER METEOROLOGIST: Katie, you're exactly right. In terms of the holiday travel, this tremendously impactful winter storm, it's just going to continue to snarled traffic in the days leading up to Christmas, which is certainly not what most of us want to hear, right.

We're just trying to get home to see our loved ones for Christmas. But this is what we're looking at for our top flight cancellation.

So, this is coming out of flightaware.com now through Saturday, we are anticipating really Chicago through Denver to just be getting hit hard. Out of the 3,251 flights, take a look at Chicago O'Hare, 650 of them have already been canceled. That's equating to 20 percent, also 17 percent out of Denver.

So, this very impressive winter storm is continuing to strengthen. And so, like Katie mentioned, we are very well going to be dealing with a bomb cyclone on our hands in the next several hours as this very intense area of low pressure continues to deepen as it's working its way northward.

Right now, we are dealing with the main event impacting locations like Chicago down through St. Louis, and even into Arkansas dumping copious amounts of snow.

And then out ahead of this, this is the appetizer to the main event that's bringing a wintry mess to locations right along the east coast.

So, if you do have to travel over the next several hours, and even into the next several days, best advice is to take it slow and easy.

Timing this all out, we are going to watch as the system continues to track northward in to southeastern Canada.

So, by tomorrow morning, that central pressure is going to drop dramatically. Notice these thin black lines, these are isobars, they equate to equal pressure. And that essentially means that we have very strong winds a lot.

So, we not only have to deal with the snow and the heavy rain, we're dealing with very strong winds which will blow that snow all around quickly reducing visibilities and that is going to lead to extremely treacherous travel.

So, we are watching especially for folks that are going to be traveling, maybe you're not taking to the skies, maybe you're taking to the roads or even rails for that matter.

We aren't going to see conditions improve until about Saturday evening as the system finally lessens to Canada.

We are going to have lake enhancement downwind of the Great Lakes. So in total, we could very easily see upwards of a foot or more of snow on the way and then you couple that with those very strong gusty winds. And this is going to be making for a travel nightmare heading right into Christmas, Katie.

PAVLICH: All right, thank you, Kendall. Winter appearing with a vengeance it seems.

SMITH: Oh, yes.

PAVLICH: OK. Thank you so much. For more on this story and so much more, download the Fox Weather app or stream Fox Weather on your favorite connected T.V. device.

Will, you seem a little stressed out over here, are you all right? Breathe in deep.

CAIN: Why would I not be stressed? A bomb cyclone is coming. I am trying to fly to Texas tomorrow. Back home for Christmas. I'm terrified.

We have gone from acid rain, nuclear or atomic winds, bomb cyclones. We're just -- we're just jamming words together. What?

PAVLICH: All right, look at that. That's pretty crazy. Look at that.

CAIN: Nuclear sunshine.

PAVLICH: I mean, this is really happening. Look, you can't see. I mean --

FAILLA: That is crazy.

CAIN: Katie, right now, I'm looking.

PAVLICH: Remember all those cows that suffocated from snow because they didn't know the storm was coming in North Dakota and South Dakota and it killed a million cows. So, no one told the cows to get out of there. That's what they're doing.

CAIN: Right now, no delays.

PAVLICH: For you. Jimmy, travel normally during the holidays is a nightmare. But when you're canceling thousands of flights, things can get pretty crazy in airports, which everybody just needs to pay, right?

FAILLA: I do consider myself a travel expert because I do, I travel a lot for stand up and Jenny's family is in Ohio.

The true superpower to getting through something like this is really to be calm. You've got to be calm. And you've got to just play the hand you're dealt.

Like the travel gods are in charge here. Be it --whether be it with delays. God made airport bars for a reason. Use them. It's probably the only time in your life you'll watch CNN, but you got to be calm. Just take it easy, and you'll get there when you get there. It's so much more important to stay safe. And just don't freak out.

CAIN: That was a sincere message from Jimmy Failla, I kept waiting for the --

PAVLICH: That's good.

FAILLA: I'm an -- I'm an adult sometimes. I'm an adult like five minutes a day.

PAVLICH: A cancel before Christmas sucks. That's no fun, especially if you're trying to see your family, right, Judge?

PIRRO: Yes, it is. You know as I look at the snow up in the Snow Belt in the southern tier of New York. So, I mean, I was never able to wear a Halloween costume without a winter coat. Because it was always snowing in Elmira, always.

So, I mean, this doesn't freak me out. In fact, I've been in airports where they don't fly when there's like a half an inch and you want to jump across and strangle not the woman or the man at the desk but the pilot. Like, what do you mean you can't fly out of here?

But I agree, I think that today Jimmy you're right. I think everybody after the pandemic is really short on any kind of -- you know, they just don't have any relief or any -- what's the word I'm looking for? You know, patience. And they just get angry and people are fighting with each other all the time. You can't. The people behind the desk are only doing what they can do for you.

My concern is that people get into cars and drive and then take a lot of risks because especially if they don't know how to drive in the snow, that's a problem.

PAVLICH: Yes, Jessica, I was actually talking to a friend in Iowa today and some friends in Minnesota and I'm like, are you guys OK? It's going to be negative 30 there and they're like, oh, it'll be back in the regular 30s by the end of the weekend, no big deal. You guys are freaking out but were fine.

TARLOV: Yes, I was in Chicago during a polar vortex five years ago.

PAVLICH: Jussie Smollett (PH) polar vortex?

TARLOV: No need, A block Jimmy did it, B block Cain did it.

And I was out of my mind, I freaked out. I had like all new gear for it and everyone who lived there was looking at me like I was completely insane and they're like, this is just two days. Like, just go inside, have a drink. We'll re-assemble.

PAVLICH: Well, and also, people like a white Christmas, right? So, there you go.

TARLOV: It will be pretty but it is sad that it's the first holiday or this Thanksgiving and then Christmas after the pandemic where people feel ready to go out there, right? They're seeing their family sometimes for the first time since all of this or taking a much needed vacation and now.

FAILLA: If -- seriously, if you're a liberal like red states, we had a full blown (INAUDIBLE). You saw how hard we Christmas last year.

CAIN: It's been over for a while.

TARLOV: I have gone away in my defense by liberal defense but you know.

FAILLA: I get you.

PAVLICH: All right, up ahead, more trouble for the crypto creep, his friends just flipped on him and now he has to live with his parents in their basement.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

TARLOV: Disgrace crypto king Sam Bankman-Fried making his first U.S. court appearance in New York after being extradited. He is facing a slew of fraud charges that could land him behind bars for the rest of his life.

The FTX founder out of jail after posting a massive \$250 million bond which one prosecutor calls the largest ever.

Bankman-Fried will now have to live under house arrest at his parents' home in California while he awaits trial.

This comes as Sam's former friends including his ex-girlfriend flipped on him. Two former top executives of Bankman-Fried's crypto trading empire have pled guilty to federal criminal fraud charges and are cooperating with the feds.

Judge, I want to go to you first. Bird's eye view, where are we right now in this case?

PIRRO: Well, the fact that we didn't find out about Ellison and Wang, the girlfriend who ran Alameda and Wang until last night, to me tells why it took so long for the arrest of Sam Bankman-Fried. Everyone was saying, why aren't they arresting him? Why aren't they arrest him?

They wanted -- the Feds clearly wanted to get these two to plead guilty to very similar charges. They have to meet the conditions of the plea deal.

The conditions of the plea deal are that they testify and cooperate with the feds incriminating Sam Bankman-Fried. That was done and tied up last night.

And as soon as they landed in New York, it was a done deal.

What that means is that the chances of this going to trial are slim to none. You've got these two who were working with him pretty much in his level. Alameda, the girlfriend who was feeding the -- getting the money fed to her was someone who it was involved in the day-to-day activities with him as was Wang.

Couple of thoughts, \$250 million bond is \$25 million bond basically. He put up -- the parents are putting up their house. And I don't understand that because the parents have yet to be investigated as well. There are issues as it relates to the parents, but that's for another day.

Now, the cooperation that they give to the feds will determine their own sentence.

So, the difference between the feds and most state prosecutions is, as a -- as a state judge, I would give a sentence of ex, they have to serve that ex.

The feds can dance around with it and say you know what, we're going to go in, maybe they won't be sentenced until after Bankman-Fried is but they can go on and say they cooperated and we're going to give them a lesser sentence than we thought we were going to give them.

Now, Sam Bankman-Fried, he can't get away with this by saying I didn't know. He actually had no guidance, no regulation, no oversight. He used the money for himself.

The money that went to Alameda and his girlfriend was then used for lavish gifts and homes for himself and his family. His family which I believe includes his parents which is, you know, pretty crazy here.

But in the end, this guy is worse than Madoff and the reason is worse than Madoff is that Madoff, the money is much higher but Madoff used an individual's money to pay another individual.

This Sam Bankman-Fried used the money for a lavish lifestyle for himself, his family and real estate. He's a dirt bag.

CAIN: Big time.

TARLOV: Dirt bag -- he's a piece of dirt bag as well I assume and do you think that this also isn't a Ponzi scheme because that's essentially what you're saying. What Madoff did was a Ponzi scheme and this is not.

PIRRO: A little worse. It's different, a little.

TARLOV: Just a little?

CAIN: I think a lot different. It's theft.

OK, we can focus on Sam Bankman-Fried and by the way, just noticing as we're speaking here, that court sketch is the most flattering court sketch I have ever seen. He is not as good looking as the artist betrays him. I don't know if that point is worth a lot to you but I couldn't help but notice.

FAILLA: No, it mattered to me.

PAVLICH: It's on its tan -- it's on tan in real person.

CAIN: This is -- listen, here's the story that matters to me, Jessica. It is less about Sam Bankman-Fried. It is more about where Sam Bankman-Fried spent his money. And I'm not talking about the homes or the lavish lifestyles, it's the people that benefited from his largest. It is the media organizations that he funded. We're up to, I think, almost a half a dozen media organizations who were living in some part off of the funds from FTX. It's Democrat politicians who were getting big campaign donations from Sam Bankman-Fried.

To me, this is the story, OK. And the quick story is this. We have a society right now where people are unwitting participants in shaping their own lives. I think we were given incomplete and false information on so many aspects of COVID. What you have here is a bank of customers for FTX who were unwilling participants in Sam Bankman-Fried's vision of the world. I will shape it for you through media, I will shape it through you for politics. And these people did not choose to participate in his manipulation of our world.

TARLOV: Very interesting. Katie, I'm sure you have thoughts on Will's assessment. And I'd love to know also, do you think that this will lead to more attempts at least of government regulation?

PAVLICH: Well, first of all, that \$250 million bond is just so eye-popping. They say it's the largest bond they've ever put out according to the U.S. Attorney. I'm fascinated to see how the defense argues that this is an unregulated industry. So, therefore, you can't hold my client accountable for rules that aren't in place. They're going to say it's fraud -- they're trying to get him on fraud. But I think that they would probably

argue that, look, there's no regulation in place for you to say where the guardrails are. So, how can you hold someone accountable when the government has failed to implement these regulations?

We've known for a long time that people on Capitol Hill had been paid by FTX. They wanted to get in their good graces by trying to pay them off so they wouldn't regulate crypto. The problem is now you're hearing a lot from politicians of going way too far on the other side of the regulation. They're acting like this is a representation or an indictment of the crypto industry as a whole, when people in the industry are saying no, no, no, this guy was fraudulently using people's money, he was stealing people's money, don't paint us with the same broad brush just because you guys want to regulate the industry in a way that allows you to have more government control.

And so, I think it'd be really fascinating to watch how this moves forward in this trial -- or maybe not trial, in the case, but also with legislation and how they try to figure out how they can crack down and whether it just applies as fraud or whether it's going to be some other new regulator industry.

PIRRO: Real fast. One of the things that the prosecutors did was they got the codefendants to plead to both securities and -- securities, crimes, so that there wouldn't be this issue about regulation. And since they admitted to it, they're going to establish the case that we got them on securities. So, I think they're -- the defense is going to have a hard time with that.

PAVLICH: Yes, but I think they may make the case because the regulations don't exist.

PIRRO: They will. They will, but only if --

PAVLICH: That might not work.

FAILLA: Really quick, I'll give you a quick street-level assessment. The two things that popped out at me the most today, \$250 million bail, the fact that this guy had a girlfriend, OK. I mean that. Everybody was a little blown away when they heard that. Let me just oversimplify this case. I don't know anything about crypto. I don't know anything about regulation.

There's a very simple investment in for everybody watching at home. Never give your life savings to a guy who shows up to the meeting in shorts and a stained T-shirt. It's a tell. It's like if you're on the street and you begin a transaction with, you're not a cop, are you? They're kind of telling you.

This guy was a dirtbag. He did a symposium -- a crypto symposium with Bill Clinton in the Bahamas where he showed up in shorts. Like, you know it's bad when Bill Clinton tells you to put pants on. But that's who this guy was. He was a dirtbag. And people weren't asleep at the wheel, they were awake at the ATM. There was so much money flying around that every one of these dirtbag celebrities -- Tom Brady is a dirtbag for this. He's hey, I'm with my pal SPF. Excuse me, Shaquille O'Neal, I'm all in on this stuff, OK. Larry David, all in on this stuff.

This guy had credibility, not because of his appearance, which I'm mocking, but because he was aligned with the right people. It was their credibility he traded off to dupe all of these poor people out of their life savings. Dirt bag.

TARLOV: Dirt bag is the word of the block. All right, up next has America become a nation of moochers?

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

FAILLA: It's a sad truth but America has become a nation of moochers, would rather sit around in mom's basement, eat Funyuns, and Hoover up Biden's generous welfare payouts. According to a new study, unemployment benefits and ObamaCare subsidies outpace the medium income in several states. Meaning, those folks are making more dough than your average firefighter or truck driver for doing nothing.

And the free ride gets better in three states. Those benefits come out to over \$100,000. Making matters worse, nearly half of Americans aged 18 to 29 are living with their parents. This is embarrassing. Will, I will start with you. When we were young, there was some shame living at home in your late 20s. And I'm one of those guys who moved out really young, like 28.

But honestly, do you think we need to bring back shame a little bit because I feel like we've collectively as a society just lowered the bar.

CAIN: If shame will do the trick, bring back shame, because this is highly, highly concerning at a deep cultural level. This morning on "FOX AND FRIENDS," we had Tony Robbins on the program and this stat came up. Did you know that in 1968, 97 percent of working age men, were either working or looking for work. Today, that number has dropped to 89 percent. You say, OK, 89-97.

If one out of 10 men are totally disinterested in working, you're headed down a -- quite honestly, it's a path we do not know where it leads. We have had a culture where women have been in the home work in non-traditional in terms of working place jobs. We've never had a society where men have simply not worked. What does America look like with a bunch of men who want to sit around on the couch?

FAILLA: You want to know what it looks like? It looks like San Francisco. It looks like tents. It looks like squalor. It looks bad. I wanted to ask you this, OK, but if you have a point to add, go ahead.

PIRRO: No, go ahead.

FAILLA: OK. What I was going to say is one of the reasons that we're having such a hard time labor force participation is enhanced unemployment benefits.

PIRRO: Exactly.

FAILLA: They're almost making it harder on small businesses to hire because people want more money. But would you argue that the lesser paying character-building jobs are probably more valuable in the long run than starting at a high salary?

PIRRO: I don't think there's any question about the lesser paying job that creates, you know, the essence of the American worker. I mean, what we're missing now and what it looks like we're on a slippery slope to lose is the idea of the concept of merit and initiative. And the idea of free ride, taking away the energy and the ambition and the initiative that makes his country such a great country.

And, you know, it's almost like, you know, you see this socialism kind of here and there kind of wreak its way when this -- when you can live off the state, whether you call it unemployment or whatever you want to call it, I don't care, the money's coming from the government. You don't have to work as hard. Then what happens is, you know, we lose a certain character in this country. And I think it's -- I think it's going to be very, very detrimental to this country going forward.

FAILLA: It's scary. J.T., let me ask you this. If the lovely baby Cleo grows up to be a small business owner, she is going to have a harder time hiring because of Democrats. Are you prepared for the reality that you might be raising a Republican right now?

TARLOV: She's one. Concerned with her unicorn.

CAIN: Answer the question, Jessica.

FAILLA: We love you.

TARLOV: I would like to say something about lifting kids out of child poverty. So, I agree with everything that's been said. And I do think that some of the blame needs to go on parents actually, for these 18 to 29-year-olds. And it actually goes up to kind of, almost to where I am. And Katie is a bit younger than me but mid-millennial even that there's the helicopter parenting and the coddling of all this has made it so that kids don't actually feel scared to leave the home, right? And they've created an environment where it's just fun to be there anyway. But that is part of this.

There's been a side effect of all of these increased benefits that I think we can all agree is a good thing. So, because of the stimulus checks, unemployment, and especially the Child Tax Credit, which unfortunately did go away last year, nearly 60 percent of kids who lived in poverty were lifted out of poverty in the last couple of years. That's a really big deal. And I'm not saying that means that we should have carte blanche, and people should be earning 100 grand for doing nothing. But that's a result that we absolutely cannot turn a blind eye to.

FAILLA: Listen, I just think what it comes back to is self-reliance. And I feel like we've eroded that from a lot of today's population. But here's a superficial question. Back in the day, if you were single guy who lived at home with his mom, you really couldn't get women. But now a lot of the women live at home with their moms too. But is the problem still there because now they have nowhere to go?

PAVLICH: I guess. I wouldn't -- I wouldn't know. But I do want to say something about just the cultural aspect of this and what people understand about benefits and getting money from the state and getting money from the government. That means a fellow American is paying your way. That means someone else is going to work on your behalf. Someone else is paying taxes. Someone is going to make sure that the government has what they need to pay out \$100,000 for people so they can say that they don't have to go to work.

And this idea that -- and this also comes back to this illegal immigration problem that we have. A lot of people say, Americans don't want to do the jobs that illegal immigrants will come to do. Well, maybe it's

because they can rake in \$100,000 for not doing those jobs. And there's dignity and work no matter what the job is. And so, when you have the government subsidizing non workers, that's why those jobs aren't getting done and that white people don't want to start in jobs that make it -- so you can climb the ladder, whether it's working at McDonald's or working at a restaurant like I did, or working in a small family business like I did.

And so, the bottom line is that if you're not working, and you're taking benefits, someone else is working for you. And that used to be something that people didn't want in this country.

FAILLA: Now, the pride of ownership is a big deal, just knowing you made something for yourself. Like, I can tell you as a cab driver who drove 12 hours a day knowing I'd wake up every morning knowing I made myself a hangover from the stress of the job the night before. But now, it's getting out there and contributing to your own well-being.

We got to -- we got to run. Up next, Big Brother has officially gone way too far. Facial recognition tech gets a mom booted from seeing the Rockettes.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAIN: You don't like country music?

PIRRO: I love country music.

CAIN: Well, you didn't like that.

PIRRO: No, the Jingle Bell song, I'm kind of over it now.

CAIN: Oh, not the country version.

PIRRO: Not the country version.

CAIN: Now, we're on a good path again. Santa Claus isn't the only one watching you this Christmas, it's the judge, and others because creepy Big Brother tech is coming to town. A mom got kicked out of Radio City Music Hall after facial recognition software identified her when she tried to see a Rockette show with her daughter. So, is it a crime? Well, she was an attorney from a law firm suing the parent company of the venue.

The company's CEO and Knicks owner James Dolan has allegedly banned anyone who works for any law firm that has a suit against his company's. This ends well, Jimmy. This ends very well.

FAILLA: I can add a lot to this. And to be clear, I have never been kicked out of a Rockette show even when my brother Mike was tipping them, which is frowned upon, but we didn't know that at the time. James Dolan, OK, as a guy who grew up rooting for the Knicks, which in New York City in the past 20 years, Madison Square Garden is the only place where shooting is down, OK. James Dolan has done such a horrible job of running our franchise, They're better lately.

But if he had put as much effort into stopping people from scoring on the LAX's next defense as he did it stopping people from getting into Radio City, I think we'd have a much happier city right now.

CAIN: So, it's not hard to extrapolate where this type of technology can go. I mean, the argument will be made, James Dolan is a private business owner. And he can choose whoever to reject for whatever reason he chooses to reject. I don't know that -- where you can draw that, Jessica, but there's some obvious places this can go that is very scary.

TARLOV: Totally. I mean, anyone who works in -- I mean, this woman didn't have to be on the case even that this was involved in. You could work at a huge law firm with thousands of people, and suddenly, you can't take your kid to a Christmas show. I mean, it's absolutely absurd. I hope this is not a trend that will catch on in any way. He's a pretty hated figure, I would say in the city. And most of all, for I guess, the poor management of the Knicks. But it is terrible and, you know, certainly as opinion people, like --

FAILLA: If you have the wrong opinion --

TARLOV: The implications of that are --

FAILLA: How long till Fox News employee gets rejected from a restaurant with facial recognition technology in New York City?

TARLOV: You just want me to say that even the liberal? I mean, yes. Judge, it's not my block, but he looked at you.

FAILLA: She's just the rock.

PAVLICH: Well, look, the thing about Dolan is the guy is pretty thin-skinned. I mean, for most people, you know, you say, hey, I'm making the money, what do I care? Well, the guy has got -- he's got some kind of grievance. It may not be legitimate, but he owns and joint. The question is, you know, how far does this go. Now, TSA, the only thing I know about TSA is that they don't use it. They use it for clear, and then they let you through. They don't use it as a punitive measure. So -- but I suspect this is going to be used more in the future. There's no question about it.

CAIN: And I think we'll probably be willing participants, Katie, to the point of clear. We trade away that privacy for the convenience.

PAVLICH: For the short line at the airport. It's true. It's true. There's a lot you'll give up for convenience at the airport. But this has been used by governments around the world for punitive measures. China is one of them. The airlines here in America are actually using this now. They're setting up so you don't even need a ticket anymore. It's all facial recognition.

When you come into the country actually for global entry through CBP, you don't even have to put your passport anymore. They -- it's all facial recognition.

TARLOV: It's so nice

(CROSSTALK)

PAVLICH: It's a scary thing what the government can use it to track innocent people down if they don't have a system where they have individual civil liberties. And even that has been trampled as we saw throughout COVID so, lots of bad thing.

Cc, There was -- there was an update on the story right before we came in to the break, and that is a lawyer went into Madison Square Garden or Radio City with a beard and a hat and defeated facial recognition.

FAILLA: Thank you. And you know who else defeated it? Jimmy Failla at the Patriot Awards. I got so smashed my iPhone wouldn't unlock from looking at my face.

CAIN: Really?

FAILLA: Thank you. Winner.

CAIN: "ONE MORE THING" is next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

PIRRO: Before we get to "ONE MORE THING," be sure to check out our Christmas special. It's so nice, it's airing twice this weekend at 5:00 p.m. Eastern. Don't miss it.

OK, I'm going to go first on this. Tonight, I am hosting "JESSE WATTERS PRIMETIME." So, I'll see you there at 7:00 p.m. Eastern. And here's some my "ONE MORE THING." A couple vacationing in Scotland may have found the scariest road in the world -- world. Now, they are driving on a road which is like 10 feet above the ocean to get to their hotel. They are literally driving. Wendy Foreigner and her husband from the U.K. had to drive down to a seaside road in Gardenstown, Scotland to get to the vacation rental.

It runs along a cliff overlooking the sea. It's so close to the waves, it crash on the road on the car. The drop off clip, the couple said, appear to go down 10 feet and into the water. They made the drive once and then opted to park down by the harbor and walk.

CAIN: Wow.

PIRRO: OK, Jessica.

FAILLA: The GPS. That was the GPS, Will.

PIRRO: Jessica, go.

TARLOV: That looks horrible. OK, so a little girl learned a hard lesson after getting stuck inside a claw machine during an attempted stuffed animal heist. Four-year-old Poppy, her older sisters persuaded her to take one for the team so they could all get enjoy. It became abundantly clear to Poppy that she had made a huge mistake. As soon as she breached the high security claw machine, she was trapped for a few minutes before her mom's partner help free her. Now, to be fair, those claw machines are rigged by design. It's in Australia.

FAILLA: It took her parents seven -- it took her parents 700 quarters to get her out.

PIRRO: OK, Katie. We don't have a lot of time. Katie.

PAVLICH: I hope they got all those toys. OK, this Florida man has a heart of gold. Patrick Rhodes works two jobs but he still finds time to deliver meals to essential workers through his essential workers campaign. This year, he is providing meals to staff members at schools across the Tampa Bay area. He says that he gets his meals and donations from area businesses and he's working to start his own foundation. So, great job to Patrick Rhodes.

PIRRO: Yes, very nice.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

PATRICK RHODES, LUNCH FOR HEROES: To the people in the community, telling them how much I appreciate what they do and what they bring to the community, you know, makes me smile and makes me happy.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PAVLICH: There you go. Good job.

PIRRO: OK. Go, Jimmy.

FAILLA: You couldn't quite understand what he was saying, but what he was saying was come see me do stand-up comedy live in 2023. I will be out in Seattle at the Federal Way Performing Arts Center on March the third. I'll be in Sacramento at the Crest Theatre March the fourth. April the seventh, we're at the Tower Theatre in Bend, Oregon. April the eighth, the Egyptian Theatre in Boise. And we'll be in Jersey April 21st and 22nd at Banana's the only time you'll see me near a fruit.

PIRRO: OK.

FAILLA: All right.

PIRRO: All right, Will, hit it.

CAIN: Two things you're used to seeing, people wear funny Christmas sweaters like dressing up like an elf and college basketball coaches going absolutely bananas. But have you seen the two things together at the same time? That's Tom Izzo, the coach of Michigan State. And he's an angry elf. He's an angry elf in this game.

PAVLICH: That's awesome.

CAIN: There you go. That was last night's game against Oakland.

PIRRO: All right, that's it for us tonight. "SPECIAL REPORT" is up next. Hey, Bret!

END

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IPD SHOW

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HD **White House Pressures Arizona To Take Down Makeshift Border Wall; Lawmakers Races To Pass Bill And Avoid Government Shutdown; Senate Passes \$1.7 Trillion Spending As Shutdown Looms; Markets Fall As New Econ Data Fans rate Hike Fears; Rep. Dan Crenshaw (R-TX), Is Being Interviewed About White House Pressuring Gov. Ducey To Take Down Makeshift Border Wall; Zelenskyy: "Turning Point" Ahead In Putin's War; Crenshaw: GOP Has Put Forth Plan To Fix Border; Monster Storm To Bring Snow, Cold For Millions; FBI Responds To Twitter Files Revelations; Ex-FTX CEO On \$250M Bond, To Live With Parents**

BY Martha MacCallum, Chad Pergram, Ari Fleischer, Jackie DeAngelis, Bill Melugin, Mike Tobin, Ian Oliver, Mike Emanuel, Connell McShane, Andy McCarthy

WC 7,825 words

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SN Fox News Channel: The Story with Martha MacCallum

SC HUNDD

LA English

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LP

JOHN ROBERTS, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: So, you'd be spending time on the beach every Christmas while the rest of us are freezing.

JACQUI HEINRICH, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: And getting paid for it.

TD

ROBERTS: It is step up to the plate.

HEINRICH: How about you? What are your plans?

ROBERTS: Home for Christmas Day, then go to San Diego for the week.

HEINRICH: Awesome. Have your flight gets out.

ROBERTS: It should be fun. Thank you. Thanks for joining us. I'm John Roberts. I'll see you again tomorrow.

HEINRICH: I'm Jacqui Heinrich, THE STORY starts right now.

MARTHA MACCALLUM, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Thank you very much, John and Jacqui. Good to see you guys. Good afternoon, everybody. I'm Martha MacCallum. So, breaking now, the White House says that the state of Arizona has to remove those shipping containers that they put to create a border to keep their own state secure. We're going to have more on that. Representative Dan Crenshaw has some thoughts on all of this. He joins us in moments.

But first, the government is about to spend nearly two trillion -- with a 'T' -- in your tax dollars. And of course, have once again put themselves under the gun days before Christmas, a storm bearing down and the message from the White House, get it done and go home.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOE BIDEN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: On Sunday, my staff, my staff, they had plans to leave tomorrow, late tonight or tomorrow -- I told them to leave now.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: The Wall Street Journal saying that the spending spree is "the ugliest omnibus bill ever," that from the Wall Street Journal and it happens while likely you and others are cutting back this Christmas.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Maybe we bought a few less gifts, but more important things that they might need.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I noticed a little bit where you like, where it's like few dollars more or the things are smaller than they normally are?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I have saved to be able to do Christmas with the kids.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I definitely feel it, for sure. But I think by now we're all kind of getting accustomed to what everything is like now.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: Yes, what things are like now. OK, so Ari Fleischer joins us in just a moment. But first to senior congressional correspondent, Chad Pergram, with the latest on what's going on there on Capitol Hill. Hi, Chad.

CHAD PERGRAM, FOX NEWS CHANNEL SENIOR CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENT: Martha, the Senate just approved the \$1.7 trillion omnibus, the vote 68 to 29. It needed 60 yays, 18 Republicans voted yes. Now, it's on to the house. There's concern about whether paralyzing travel and marooning lawmakers in Washington.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. NANCY PELOSI (D-CA): We could pass it tonight. That would be our hope. But we're at, shall we say, waiting to see how long the debate goes there. We want people to be able to go home, and as you know their storms across America, and hopefully that will be a motivation for expedited discussion.

PERGRAM (voiceover): A dispute over Title 42 nearly tanked the bill. Republicans backed an amendment to preserve Title 42 for the border.

SEN. BILL HAGERTY (R-TN): When Chuck Schumer found this out, he brought everything to a screeching halt. And they're coming up with more of this typical Washington Kabuki. They're going to try a procedural maneuver to allow those Democrats that want to support Title 42 to vote for it, but then set it up to fail so that they can again, vote for something that won't pass and then vote against it when it could really matter.

PERGRAM: Even if the house approves the bill ahead of tomorrow night's deadline, there's not enough time to get the bill into proper legislative form for President Biden to sign -- takes days. That's why the House and Senate will approve an interim spending bill to fund the government through December 30th.

SEN. RICHARD SHELBY (R-AL): We've done that before that is just to stop gap to make sure that all the paperwork got done for the president signature.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: It's a little ironic, right? We won't go through all this and then we still have to do another C.R., right?

SHELBY: Well, we've done it before, it worked. It's just insurance. Managing risk.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PERGRAM (on camera): So, even, though they rushed to finish before the holiday, Congress still missed its goal. That's why they need some fiscal cook like the interim spending bill to avoid a shutdown on Christmas Eve, Martha.

MACCALLUM: Here we go again, Chad, thank you very much. With that, let's bring in Ari Fleischer, former White House Press Secretary and Fox News Contributor. Ari, always good to see you. Welcome this afternoon. So, 18 Republicans voted yes on this bill, which is 4000 pages long and pretty much no one has had a chance to fully read. And you hear Nancy Pelosi saying she hopes that this storm is motivation to get them all to give this go.

ARI FLEISCHER, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: Yes, you know, the best reason I've heard any Republican for why they voted yes on this is it has a 10 percent increase in defense spending, and that is good news. We do need to boost our spending, particularly when you look at the rise of China. But Martha, I'm here to tell you Washington is broken. There is no reason in the world appropriation should all be lumped into one gigantic take-it-or-leave-it bill like this. I'm old enough to remember when they broke it down into the 12 chunks, the 12 different appropriation bills and each one passed on its own and funded its own area of government as amended and as debated. That's how Washington supposed to work, it hasn't worked that way in years -- doesn't matter which party is in charge.

MACCALLUM: Yes. And you know, it shows you how broken Washington is, Ari, that basically the only error they had in their quiver was to just go on the assumption that the pandemic is still around so that you could keep Title 42 in place. And granted, it's, you know, still around to some extent, but it's nothing like it was when this Title 42 was put into place. So, now, they're trying to use that in order to solve something at the border. It's pretty pathetic.

FLEISCHER: Yes, and Title 42, to be clear, that is designed to keep out people with contagious illnesses from entering the United States. That's a wise provision. But now that COVID is faded, what we're really faced with is the core problem of immigration under Joe Biden. You know, this didn't happen under Donald Trump, and not just because of Title 42, but because he enforced the laws at the border and people thought he meant it. They thought when Trump said: don't come, they wouldn't be able to get in.

Now, all immigrant has to do who wants to come to America illegally is watch T.V. They hear Biden say, don't come, and the T.V. tells them: look, it's easy to cross a river -- everybody come. Those pictures are also inviting people to come illegally, and it's because Joe Biden isn't enforcing the nation's laws. So, it doesn't matter what they do with Title 42. Joe Biden won't enforce it.

MACCALLUM: So, it's crazy to me that in all the money in this bill, Ari, there's a lot that provides for taking care of migrants and people who cross into the country illegally. But they were specific in saying that they didn't want any money in this \$1.7 trillion bill to go towards building any kind of high-tech border, which the president ran on. He said he wanted that.

FLEISCHER: Yes. What does that tell you about the motive of the Democrats who are behind this? They really just want to flood the country. This is what it's about. They don't want to enforce the laws at the border. But now they want to extend welfare spending to people who are here illegally.

MACCALLUM: Yes, and you've got cities clamoring for the money, and those same cities have branded themselves sanctuary cities. And they told people to come, and now they're begging taxpayers across the country for more money to make it work. Ari, thank you very much. It's always great to have you with us. We'll see you soon.

So, we are awaiting this House vote on the spending bill also breaking right now, this massive storm that is gripping the nation and people across the country told to stay inside. More than 3000 flights have been canceled. And the Dow is taking all of this hard as well this afternoon. We're going to tell you what's going on there when we come back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: Breaking right now, a major sell off on Wall Street is underway with markets on pace for their worst year since 2008. And that was not a great year. If you remember well, Wall Street digesting some fresh numbers and data and input into this market today suggesting that high levels of inflation may hover and linger a little bit longer than any of us would like to see. So, that raises the likelihood that the Fed may need to continue to increase interest rates in the country which makes everything more expensive. Let's bring in Fox Business Correspondent Jackie DeAngelis. Hi, Jackie.

JACKIE DEANGELIS, FOX BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT: Hi, good afternoon to you, Martha. That's exactly right. And let me start today with a revision of the third quarter's GDP number. That's really what got this market off on the wrong foot, it would normally sound like better -- higher growth is a better thing for the market. But then, of course, the markets thinking the Fed is going to have to raise those rates some more. Add to that, this \$1.7 trillion omnibus spending bill that passed the Senate, Wall Street thinks it's likely to pass the House.

Now, they don't look at the rights, wrongs, they could debate that, 10 ways to Sunday, but they don't do that. They take a clinical approach. They see \$1.7 trillion dollars more in spending, and they are thinking more inflation, higher interest rates. That of course adding to the concerns that 2023 is being set up to be difficult year economically and that the Fed piloting this soft landing where the country skirts recession will be difficult.

Also, chipmaker, Micron, not only reporting poor results today, but warning that there could be a glut in the semiconductor market, which is so ironic because we've been worried about our semiconductor supply. It is coming back online to possibly another extreme that then could impact prices. Too much of something, price drops, companies make less money. They're also laying people off, Martha, and that's a big concern in 2023.

MACCALLUM: Indeed, it is. Jackie, thank you very much, and we look forward to your new show, "THE BIG MONEY SHOW" that is debuting in 2023, that's another thing to look forward to in the new year. So, thanks very much, Jackie. We'll see you later.

So, Congressman Dan Crenshaw has something that he wants to say about President Biden telling Arizona that they need to take away the makeshift wall that they built with shipping containers to secure their state at the southern border.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: Ukraine's president saying that the turning point in his country's war against Vladimir Putin's forces is coming.

And he echoed the brave American battle against Hitler at the Battle of the Bulge.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

VOLODYMYR ZELENSKY, PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE (through translator): Just like the brave American soldiers, which held their lines and fought back Hitler's forces during the Christmas of 1944. Brave Ukrainian soldiers are doing the same to Putin's forces these Christmas.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: President Zelenskyy, thanking the United States for billions of dollars in financial and military aid and saying that the money is "not charity", but an investment in global security and democracy.

And the White House tells Governor Ducey today of Arizona that his border barrier that they made out of shipping containers has to come down.

The Republican governor says that he built it because Arizona is going to do the job that Joe Biden refuses to do, he said. Ducey agree that they will dismantle after the Biden administration sued the State of Arizona.

Texas Congressman Dan Crenshaw is here. But first, to national correspondent Bill Melugin at the border in Eagle Pass, Texas. Hi, Bill.

BILL MELUGIN, FOX NEWS CHANNEL NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT: Hi, Martha. Good afternoon to you.

So, we've been hearing all this talk about how there are 1000s of migrants in Mexico waiting. Waiting for Title 42 to drop so they can cross.

And now, we're getting a chance to see what that looks like on the ground. Take a look at this video our team got from a law enforcement shore, showing the situation in Brownsville, Texas yesterday.

MELUGIN (voice over): This is directly across from Matamoros, Mexico.

And what you're looking at are masses of migrants gathered on the Mexican shoreline yesterday, waiting for what they thought was going to be the Trump -- the drop of Title 42 to essentially just rush across the border, rush across the river and get into the United States.

Now, obviously Title 42 didn't end up dropping yesterday, but that word didn't get around to everybody.

But you can see, just at least in that part of the border, how many migrants had gathered waiting to cross. That will take you to Yuma, Arizona.

Take a look at this video our team shot out there this morning. Several 100 migrants crossed illegally into Yuma earlier this morning.

They've been getting well over 1,000 illegal crossings per day in that sector and the demographics out there are different than what we see here in Eagle Pass.

You must have been getting people from the Middle East, from Russia, from China, really from all over the world.

That will show you what we've been getting here in Eagle Pass. Take a look at this video we shot this morning just before sunrise with our thermal drone.

As usual, before the sun came up, we had yet another group of about 200 that crossed illegally, almost all of them single adults. Typically, from this area. They are coming from Nicaragua, Colombia, and the Dominican Republic.

Very quickly, one last photo to show you, another major fentanyl bust in Nogales, Arizona. 700,000 fentanyl pills found in a train coming in from Mexico in Nogales yesterday, Martha. Will send it back to you.

MACCALLUM: Incredible. 107,000 Americans lost their lives this year alone due to fentanyl poisoning. Bill Melugin, thank you very much from the border again today in Eagle Pass.

Let's bring in Republican Congressman Dan Crenshaw of Texas, who joins me now.

Congressman, always good to have you with us. Thank you very much for joining us today. What goes through your mind when you hear this story about Arizona, where they kind of took it upon themselves to create a border where there isn't one? And the White House, you know, who never talks about the border, was willing to talk to them about this, and tell them they have to take it down?

REP. DAN CRENSHAW (R-TX): What's really frustrating -- let me put this into perspective. So, it seems that if the Biden administration is upset about the governor of one of our states, putting container -- shipping containers on federal land, you would also think that the president would be upset about an infringement on federal land in general, say, at our international borders.

So, they go -- through all this effort to attack a fellow American, Governor Ducey of Arizona, because he is actually building the wall in his state, they go through all this effort to dismantle this and stop this effort.

But they go through -- they put no effort into actually preventing illegal immigration and disincentivizing it. And that's what we're talking about here.

This is -- this happen, because as soon as Biden took office, they stop building the wall. We had -- they were literally leaving materials out there to rot, because they just didn't want to build a wall.

They didn't like the way it looked, or whatever. And so, Governor Ducey took it upon himself. And it worked, especially in a place like Arizona, because they don't have a river like we have in Texas.

So, you can actually stop illegal immigration right there at the border.

One of the reasons -- the focus of this crisis is in Texas is because of the Rio Grande. The international borders right in the middle of the river.

So, you can put walls up, but they can still cross and around U.S. territory, it's still a really big problem. Until Biden actually does his job, and the state department does their job and deals with Mexico and gets the Mexican government to stop those migrants who are waiting, as you guys just showed, across the river, we're going to continue seeing this crisis.

He need to reinstate the Remain in Mexico policy to deport people in an expedited manner. If they're not going to use Title 42 anymore, they need to use Title 8, and make sure it has the same consequences.

They can do this, but it's a matter of will.

MACCALLUM: Yes. You know, people win elections to come up with solutions to solve problems, essentially. I think that's the idea. And that's why people are motivated to vote for someone.

So, here you have a governor who came up with a solution to deal with his own state situation. And then, the federal government, which as I said, barely gives lip service to this entire topic, found the time to tell him that those have to come down, which I find very interesting.

The vice president is was -- you know, supposed to be in charge of determining what the root cause is we're here, to try to slow this down.

And we hear absolutely nothing about what she has learned in that effort, and what she thinks is the best approach, the best solution to all of this.

But she did say this. She said, "And sadly, what we've seen in particular, I am sad to say, from the Republicans in Congress is an unwillingness to engage in any meaningful reform that could actually fix a lot of what we're witnessing."

So, you're a Republican in Congress. What's your answer? What's your response to that, Congressman?

CRENSHAW: It's infuriating. We heard the same thing from the press secretary when we all went down to the border and did some press conferences down there.

And they said, oh, Republicans just grandstand, they never have solutions. It's just a flat out lie. I personally, just my legislation alone would fix this problem.

The Texas delegation, we put forth an entire plan made up of dozens of pieces of legislation that would 100 percent fix the problem at the border.

Not deal with immigration law, right? Not done that deal with all of these reforms that everybody wants to do. Just fix the border. In a -- in a very comprehensive way that Democrats should agree with.

So, they are the ones who get in the way of this. I'll go to Democratic colleagues who say they care about the border, and they're great. We need to reform our asylum loopholes.

MACCALLUM: Yes.

CRENSHAW: And they'll say, oh, well, I can't do that. And I'm like, what will you do? And they said, well, we'll put more -- we'll put more money in CBP.

(CROSSTALK)

MACCALLUM: That is crazy. Yes, what will you do?

CRENSHAW: Well, just to process people faster. So, they're here longer and quicker. So, you don't have to have them under our bridge.

MACCALLUM: Great.

CRENSHAW: That's it. That's all they'll do. And don't let them trick anybody.

MACCALLUM: Yes. I mean, people need to hold people to account when they do vote for them to get stuff done.

One quick question before I let you go. We played the sound bite from President Zelenskyy in Ukraine. Obviously, a big moment when he came to the Capitol yesterday.

There is -- there is some pushback now in some corners about this money, and this commitment, and looking for more clarity on what the end game actually is here.

Where do you stand on that, Congressman?

CRENSHAW: Yes. I like Zelenskyy's speech last night. He did the two things that I wanted him to do, which was show some gratitude for what we've done for you? And I think he did that.

The second one was, say what's at stake, make the argument for what's at stake here, and why it matters to us. And I make that argument all the time.

I think it doesn't matter to us, we can pretend like this is an ocean away and doesn't affect us. Like we're still living in the 1800s.

But we're not, it doesn't take six months to get to Europe anymore. It takes nine hours.

Everything affects everything, especially a major land war in Europe. And especially when Putin, 70-year -- and Russia of 70-year adversary is now being dismantled because of a small investment for the United States.

It's good geo strategically for us. It shows China what we're willing to do and what they shouldn't do in Taiwan. It maintains us in our leadership role.

And I think I'm still -- I'm obviously still very supportive of Ukraine and our efforts there. Doesn't mean that it's endless, doesn't mean that it's limitless, but it does mean that we should continue to fight.

MACCALLUM: OK, Congressman, thank you very much. So, it's good to see you. Have a Merry Christmas. It's great to have you with us today. Thank you, sir.

CRENSHAW: Thanks, Martha.

MACCALLUM: So, coming up, a new episode on the untold story podcast drops today. It's a really interesting in depth conversation that I had with Bill Melugin.

He shared his story of his own roots and his career, and why he's so focused on the border. His in depth work, sometimes dangerous work covering that southern border for us, and the cartels who run it.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BILL MELUGIN, FOX NEWS CHANNEL NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT (voice over): Every day, we show these big groups like 400 people coming across all at once, right? And it happens at the same time, the same place every morning.

That doesn't just happen by chance. There's not just 500 people in Mexico in these border towns, you say, hey, let's all rendezvous tomorrow morning and maybe we'll cross.

No. They're held in stash houses. They're in shelters. They're all over the place. And it's smuggling organizations and cartels who pushed them all across at the same time, same spot, same location.

And we've shown that over and over and over. And it is like clockwork in some locations, Martha.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: Yes. Amazing. What a conversation we had. I urge you to download that. You'll learn a lot, I learned a lot.

"THE UNTOLD STORY" podcast available now at [Foxnews podcast.com](https://www.foxnews.com/podcast/the-untold-story).

So, they're calling this the Arctic bomb on its way down from Canada, already sweeping across the country, expected to bring the wind chill into the negative double digits for more than half of the country. Plunging 150 million Americans into a deep freeze and threatening lives in some situations, causing chaos to be sure for travelers this Christmas.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: Look at this, a woman who is just standing on a Chicago platform, subway platform. A man shoves her into the tracks as the train is pulling in. It happens -- oh my gosh, it happens quickly. And it's incredible. When you watch this poor woman, she flips over, and fortunately, she was able to get out of the way in time. She had a cut on her forehead and is doing OK. That is life in the subways these days.

Police have arrested the suspect an hour later. He's behind bars without bail and charged with attempted murder, so we don't see that every day. That's also good news.

And 200 million Americans under extreme weather alerts today facing blizzard conditions, life threatening cold, and this so called bomb cyclone effect that is happening in the skies. It's pretty clearly very rough in Rapid City, South Dakota as millions of holiday travelers are trying to get home for Christmas.

Here are the latest numbers from FlightAware, nearly 14,000 delays out there and more than 4,000 cancellations from yesterday through Saturday. And, of course, Christmas is Sunday. Mike Tobin is standing by at O'Hare Airport in Chicago, always one of the busiest places, but first to Fox Weather meteorologist, with the big picture, Ian Oliver. Hi, Ian.

IAN OLIVER, FOX WEATHER METEOROLOGIST: Martha, good afternoon. Yes, this is a brutal storm system. You saw the impacts to travel, but the storm is still getting stronger and significantly as we move into the overnight hours tonight. You've got this arc of snow here. That's the cold front from the Great Lakes and into the southern plains, this mess now that has found its way to the Mid Atlantic and the Northeast.

This is the graphic that I'm calling coming attractions. If the front has swept through, you know it. But this is the Arctic Air that's going to be taking over the eastern part of the country. Look at Denver, 61 degrees colder right now as compared to this time yesterday. That's the actual air temperature. Places like Dallas, 30 to 40 degrees colder. Because of that, we've got more than 100 million Americans under some form of wind chill alert. So that's the Arctic air that follows this.

Here's where we'll be at tomorrow morning. Atlanta, twelve degrees for an actual air temperature, 28 degrees below zero in St. Louis. This is where the real danger comes in. But as the storm system gets stronger, those wind gusts crank up, perhaps up to 70 mph in the northeast. That's going to lead to power outages as this cold air is funneling in. Martha?

MACCALLUM: Ian, thank you very much. You're going to be busy over the next several days to be sure. For more on this story and so much more, you can download the Fox Weather app. I use it all the time. It's a great app. You can also stream Fox Weather on your favorite connected TV device in all those places. So you have no excuse to not know what's going on out there. It's very helpful.

So let's check in with senior correspondent Mike Tobin. He is live at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago. Hi, Mike.

MIKE TOBIN, FOX NEWS SENIOR CORRESPONDENT: Hi there, Martha. Unfortunately, the people here at O'Hare are starting to feel the impact of this storm. Now you've got cancellations at O'Hare 252, Chicago's Midway Airport 113 cancellations.

As we go out and look across the nation, at some of the major air carriers, American Airlines 122 cancellations today, Delta Airlines 128, Southwest Airlines really seems to be getting hit hard. A

spokesperson just sent me a message saying that out of an abundance of caution, they are proactively adjusting the schedule. 831 Cancellations for Southwest Airlines, United Airlines 134. If you look across the nation, just at the domestic flights that were canceled today, we're now up over 2,000, 2106 flights were canceled.

Of the travelers we've encountered here at the airport, most of them are people who have been away working or traveling for whatever reason, and they're just trying to get home.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: They cancel the flight, they change the gate, then they cancel the flight. I got to go back down here, rebook or either refund. So it's kind of hassle. They didn't tell me that I had to pay for my carry on and my luggage.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: We're just kind of dealing with the change, so if we can't get flights we're just going to stay home.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: We started -- got everything was good to go. They boarded the plane, got on the plane, and literally 30 seconds later told the flight was canceled.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

TOBIN: Now, FlightAware puts out what they call the misery map. You can see with the red on the misery map. Those are the delays and cancellations. It looks like Denver got it the worst early on. Minneapolis, St. Paul was probably second followed by Denver. As the storm progresses, it looks like they're sharing the misery, really with the entire nation when you start talking about the ripple effect. In terms of the weather, it has shown up here in Chicago. The roads are wet and it's only expected to get colder, so we could be looking at freezing roads in addition to the off flight troubles. Martha?

MACCALLUM: Yes, dangerous. Mike, thank you very much. We'll stay in touch with you on all of that as it develops throughout the next few days. The FBI is now responding to Fox's questions about millions of dollars that were sent from the FBI to Twitter in payments, and whether it attempted to suppress or spike the Hunter Biden laptop story. Congressman Byron Donalds on the Oversight Committee joins me next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: The FBI is responding after the Hunter Biden Twitter files revealed its close ties to the company. The bureau even giving Twitter more than \$3 million to pay some of their staffers to do work that was commissioned through them. In moments, Republican Congressman Byron Donalds, who's on the Oversight Committee that will investigate all of this, including Hunter Biden, we're going to ask him how they are going to approach all of this. But first to chief Washington correspondent Mike Emanuel with the very latest live in DC. Hi, Mike.

MIKE EMANUEL, FOX NEWS CHIEF WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT: Hi, Martha. The FBI insists his interactions with Twitter show nothing more than examples of traditional, long standing and ongoing federal and private sector engagements. We did learn in the Twitter files release about money from journalist Michael Shellenberger. The FBI's influence campaign may have been helped by the fact that it was paying Twitter millions of dollars for its staff time.

"I am happy to report we have collected \$3,415,323 since October 2019, reports an associate of Jim Baker in early 2021." Baker is Twitter's former deputy general counsel. FBI officials tell Fox those are reasonable costs and expenses associated with their response to a legal process for complying with legal requests and a standard procedure. A Republican on House oversight says the FBI might be getting too involved.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. FRED KELLER (R-PA): What we need to make sure is that the government is not going through things helping Twitter, Facebook or anybody else, hold fast to what they should or not on their platforms. That's not the role of the FBI to look at free speech, and that's what's happened.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

EMANUEL: On the Hunter Biden laptop story late in the 2020 presidential campaign, FBI officials tell Fox we did not discuss or provide instruction regarding Hunter Biden's laptop or associated media coverage, an allegations that the FBI and back channel communications with Twitter suppressed or spiked the Hunter Biden laptop story. The response from these FBI officials is, we did not request anything of the sort. FBI officials would not answer if they had any communications with the Biden campaign in the fall of 2020. Martha?

MACCALLUM: Mike Emanuel, thank you very much, Mike. So with that, we bring in Florida Republican Congressman Byron Donalds. He sits on the House Oversight Committee which has launched an investigation into whether government officials colluded with big tech to censor Americans. Thank you very much, Congressman Donald. It's good to have you with us today.

I want to start with this from Jonathan Turley, an op-ed that he wrote. FBI and Twitter formed a censorship alliance and they can't be allowed to get away with it. He goes on to say, it's clear that any such reform should include full investigation of the FBI and its involvement in censorship efforts. As many as 80 agents reportedly were committed to this effort.

It's clear now if we are to end censorship by surrogate, the House will have to probe and push everywhere in the FBI for answers. So, is that what you are committed to doing, sir, and what's that going to look like?

REP. BYRON DONALDS (R-FL): First of all, good to be with you. Merry Christmas to everybody. I am committed to that. I think the Oversight Committee, House Republicans, we are committed to that as well, because what we have seen already through the Twitter files, and let me just also say this. If it happened at Twitter, it probably also happened at Facebook, at Google, and probably with the large media outlets. If this is what has been happening, then you have elements of the government who have been suppressing free speech.

My last reading of the First Amendment is that the government will not do anything to abridge, or silence, or suppress free speech in the United States. And so, that means that members of our government, namely in the FBI, maybe other agencies as well, will have to come before Congress. They're going to have to be held accountable, and we're going to go from there, because if you're going to have a democratic republic that's going to survive, elements of our government cannot be influencing and interfering in elections.

MACCALLUM: Yes. The FBI is pushing back. They're saying those payments were completely legitimate for the work that was done, and they're saying that they didn't do anything to suppress the Hunter Biden story. What's your response to that?

DONALDS: Yes, I just don't believe them at all. It just is utterly ridiculous. Because if you look at the email traffic, it's crystal clear that there were elements of FBI who were promoting the Twitter, that this was fake information, it was misinformation, it was foreign information. What we've come to see, it was actually facts, things that were found domestically here in the United States. The FBI had the information but they were telling social media companies to do what they could to tamp down on it and to not let that information out.

Without a shadow of a doubt, that is interfering in an election. That's exactly what it is. And so, I just don't believe them. That's why they have to be brought before the committee under oath. We're going to have to go through an extensive investigative process, but House Republicans are committed to that work.

MACCALLUM: All right. We'll be watching closely. Thank you very much, congressman. Merry Christmas to you and yours, good to have you here today. Thank you, sir.

DONALDS: Thank you.

MACCALLUM: So disgraced crypto king Sam Bankman-Fried is now out on \$250 million bail. He will spend confinement at his parents home in Silicon Valley, we're told. He faces a maximum of 115 years in prison for committing what prosecutors call one of the biggest financial frauds in US history.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: Well, there he goes. The former crypto CEO accused of a fraud of epic proportions is back in the United States and is now out of jail. A judge released him on \$250 million bond with a lot of stipulations. He will live with his parents until his trial. His next date is January 3rd, court date. In moments, former federal prosecutor Andy McCarthy and the Wall Street Journal's James Freeman weigh in. But first to Fox Business chief national correspondent Connell McShane, who is live at the courthouse here in New York City. Hi, Connell.

CONNELL MCSHANE, FOX BUSINESS CHIEF NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT: Hey there, Martha. \$250 million, we've never seen anything like, and what a number. His parents had to cosign on the deal, put their house up as collateral to help secure it. Which is fitting, I suppose, because Bankman-Fried has been ordered to live with his parents, awaiting trial at their home in California.

Let's take a look at him as we saw him earlier today. Bankman-Fried exiting the courthouse here in Lower Manhattan, really not much of an expression on his face. He was not asked to enter a plea today. And this is how not only it looked, but it sounded as SBF made his way to the car.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Back up, back up.

(INAUDIBLE)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Sir, what do you say to your investors have lost so much?

(INAUDIBLE)

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MCSHANE: To his investors, but clearly not interested in taking questions. Bankman-Fried when he was in the courtroom earlier today was just sitting right in between two of his lawyers, listening to the prosecutor call his bail deal, the largest ever pretrial bond. It requires him to surrender his passport and also undergo regular mental health treatment and evaluation. Really, the only time he spoke today at all was when the judge asked him if he understood the conditions of his release. Yes, I do, he said.

The other condition he needs to understand now is that two former colleagues are ready to testify against him. Caroline Ellison is one of them, former head of Alameda Research, that's the trading firm closely connected to FTX. She pleaded guilty on seven counts while the FTX co-founder, Gary Wang, pleaded guilty on four counts. Both of them are now cooperating with prosecutors.

So for now, here's this 30-year-old Sam Bankman-Fried months ago heading up a company that was said to be valued at \$32 billion himself, a billionaire several times over headed to his parents home in California to await trial on charges that could send them to jail for a very long time. Martha?

MACCALLUM: Well, it's quite a story. Thank you very much, Connell. Let's bring in Andy McCarthy, former federal prosecutor and Fox news contributor, and James Freeman, assistant editor of the Wall Street Journal's Editorial Page. Gentlemen, great to have both of you with us. You've both been writing a lot about this.

Andy, let me start with you. The cooperation of Caroline Ellison and Gary Wang, how significant is that in this case against which will be the case against Sam Bankman-Fried?

ANDY MCCARTHY, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: Well, it's highly significant for a couple of reasons, Martha. One, of course, the Southern District of New York, my old stomping grounds, got both of these accomplices, or alleged accomplices, to plead guilty to the same conspiracy charges that SBF is charged with. So that's always a problem for somebody at trial that people have pled guilty to the same thing that he's charged with.

The other thing I think is interesting about it is, there's pretty interesting legal questions about whether the securities laws and the commodities laws apply to cryptocurrency. So I thought it was telling that the Southern District forced the two accomplices, or alleged accomplices, to plead guilty to the securities fraud conspiracy count and the commodities fraud conspiracy count because they're obviously trying to lay the groundwork that the federal agencies obviously have jurisdiction over those charges.

MACCALLUM: Yes. He had a cushier stay in the Bahamas than we thought. We heard it was such a horrific prison. He had air conditioning, cable TV, a personal (inaudible), his own toilet, running water, vegan food options. James, what do you think about all this today?

JAMES FREEMAN, ASSISTANT EDITOR, WALL STREET JOURNAL'S EDITORIAL PAGE: Yes. I think some people might wonder why he didn't fight his extradition. He's entitled to the presumption of innocence. It's possible that he thought drawing this out for as long as he could wasn't necessarily going to change the result. As Andy mentioned, the fact that you've got criminal fraud pleas by his close associates. These are people right with him at the heart of the organization, Alameda, the trading firm, and then FTX, the cryptocurrency exchange.

So he'll have his day in court but the fact that he already had a series of fraud, series of fraud convictions and the bar, of course, is lower with the regulators, the SEC and the CFTC bringing civil suits. So, yes, I would think it would be hard for him to be optimistic.

MACCALLUM: Yes. It looks like a very tricky situation for him. Andy, one more thought on this and then I want to ask James a quick question about another piece that he wrote. He's all lawyered up, obviously. I mean, is there any hope for any leniency for him in this case, do you think?

MCCARTHY: Well, obviously, Martha, the two accomplices quickly got in the door, pled guilty, and struck cooperation agreements. So to the extent that leniency is possible, it would be in his interest to get in and settle the case quickly. At the same time, I looked before we came on, Bernie Madoff was sentenced to 150

years. Now, his fraud was bigger than this one, but we're still talking in the billions of dollars. So he's got a lot of exposure.

MACCALLUM: Extraordinary. James, you wrote a couple of pieces this week on wind energy, which is something that we've been digging into. We've done a number of podcasts on this topic. And I want to actually quote from a piece that was in the Boston Herald, which I think kind of nails what is being discussed here, because there are wind farm plans for the entire Atlantic Ocean, basically. All up and down the coast, those areas have been leased for wind farms for green energy.

But now there's a lot of pushback to these programs. And this one is from the Boston Herald, whales on the losing side of wind energy. Environmentalists want to crack down on the main lobster industry in the name of protecting endangered whales, but they turn a blind eye to the greater threat to whales from proposed offshore wind farms. The irony is almost as delicious as the lobster dinners at stake.

Tell us about this briefly and we'll dig in as we go forward here.

FREEMAN: Yes. And kudos on all your work on this, I think it's great that you've been pointing out that, first of all, there's a lot of CO2 emission when you create these massive wind farms. You've got to create the concrete and bring it out to sea, and then erect these massive turbine towers off the ocean floor that go up above the water. You have the big turbines, which, of course, a lot of those materials are created in China, and they use a lot -- burn a lot of CO2 making them.

But we're also seeing this whale issue where that sound that the turbines go around on a big wind project, it's extremely destructive to whales. It also -- when you create this network of wind farms offshore, you really disrupt their habitat. So on top of it all, just to make the environmental economic madness of this picture complete, whales are also a carbon sink. They absorb a lot of carbon. They support phytoplankton, which also munch a lot of carbon. So it's basically terrible.

MACCALLUM: It's extraordinary. I mean, we got to leave it there, James, thank you very much. We grew up with the Sierra Club, they're nowhere on this and save the whales. Thanks, you guys. Merry Christmas, everybody.

That's THE STORY for today. "YOUR WORLD" is up next. We'll see you tomorrow.

END

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HD Zelenskyy In D.C., Joint Press Conference Soon; Zelenskyy Visits As Congress Considers More Aid; Sen. Rick Scott (R-FL) Is Interviewed About His Support To Another \$45 Billion That's In Omnibus Bill To Support Ukraine's War Effort; RNC Chair On GOP Opposition To Spending Bill; Border Braces For Migrant Surge If Title 42 Ends; Awaiting SCOTUS Order TO Title 42 Enforcement; Arctic Blast Grips US Ahead Of Christmas Weekend; **FTX** Founder Agrees To Be Extradited; Hall Of Fame Running Back Franco Harris Dies At 72

BY Martha MacCallum, Peter Doocy, Jack Keane, Hillary Vaughn, Bill Melugin, Mitti Hicks, Connell McShane, Nate Foy

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SC HUNDD

LA English

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LP

JOHN ROBERTS, FOX NEWS HOST: We're going to have to drink the eggnog by ourselves. So, a happy, happy holiday -- Merry Christmas to you and your family. Happy New Year. I guess I'll see you on January 3rd.

SANDRA SMITH, FOX NEWS HOST: Yes, in the new year. Thanks so much, everybody for joining us. Thanks to all of you. I'm Sandra Smith.

TD

ROBERTS: And I'm John Roberts. I'll see you again tomorrow. "THE STORY" with Martha starts right now.

MARTHA MACCALLUM, FOX NEWS ANCHOR (on camera): All right, guys. Thank you very much. Good afternoon, everybody. I'm Martha MacCallum. Extraordinary images that we are seeing here today in February of this year. Zelenskyy was a man with a target on his back by Russian forces. He was sneaking above ground to show his presence as he led his country's improbable and forceful battle against Vladimir Putin's army. He was in bunkers in Kyiv, for the most part.

But today, having led an effort that no one thought at the beginning could succeed, ultimately, he's at the White House with the President right now, and he's asking the United States to continue to send money and arms to support his country. Now, the U.S. has led in this support while some European nations have made promises but not entirely fulfilled them. The two leaders meeting in the Oval Office, they will hold a press conference together shortly.

We will take you there live and then Zelenskyy will speak to a rare joint meeting of Congress -- that happens later this evening. So, just yesterday, he was on the frontlines of the war, his troops gave him an assigned Ukrainian flag. He told them that he would "pass it on from the boys to Congress, and to the President of the United States." General Jack Keane is standing by with his assessment of this historic meeting that's taking place right now. As we watch from the White House, we go to Peter Doocy, White House Correspondent. Hi, Peter. Good afternoon.

PETER DOOCY, FOX NEWS CHANNEL WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Martha, Martha, good afternoon. The last time Zelenskyy was here, he had a tie on but that was before the war. He's here this afternoon dressed the way we've seen him while he's been hunkered down in Ukraine, and he came bearing gifts including a battlefield metal that he wanted to give the president.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

VOLODYMYR ZELENSKY, PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE: All my appreciations from my heart, from the hearts, all Ukrainians. From our nation, strong nation -- all the appreciation to you, first of all, Mr. President, for your support, and leadership.

DOOCY (voiceover): The metal Zelenskyy gave Biden belongs to a Ukrainian war hero; the President is going to send a challenge coin back to that soldier in return. He's also going to send Ukraine a Patriot missile battery for the first time, as he lays out what he sees as the next phase of Putin's plan.

JOE BIDEN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: He's trying to use winter as a weapon. And Ukrainian people continue to inspire the world. I mean, that sincerely. Noy just inspire us, but inspire the world with their courage and how they have chosen resilience and resolve for their future.

DOOCY: On Capitol Hill, Mitch McConnell and Chuck Schumer are actually on the same page about Ukraine funding, they both want it to continue uninterrupted, and Schumer is putting tonight's Zelenskyy's speech in historical context.

SEN. CHUCK SCHUMER (D-NY): Where Winston Churchill stood generations ago, so too, President Zelenskyy stands not just as a president, but also as an ambassador of freedom itself.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

DOOCY (on camera): So, to Chuck Schumer, Zelenskyy is already on par with one of Western civilization's greatest wartime leaders 300 days into this war, Martha.

MACCALLUM: Peter, thank you, Peter Doocy at the White House. With that, we bring in retired Four-Star General Jack Keane, former Army Vice Chief of Staff and Chairman of the Institute for the Study of War and Fox News Senior Strategic Analyst. General, always good to have you with us. So, obviously, this is a big occasion. It's an important one for President Zelenskyy to be sure to get that continued support. We've seen a little bit of, of support waning in terms of popular opinion in this country. Tell us what you think of what's happening right now at the White House, Sir.

GEN. JACK KEANE, FOX NEWS CHANNEL SENIOR STRATEGIC ANALYST: Well, I think it's a very critical meeting. And I think President Biden did absolutely the right thing. At a very important time. We're about to experience a transition in our government, and the Republicans are taking over the house. And President Biden is very much aware that there's two ways you support Ukraine, through policy and executive orders that President Biden is doing, and also by submitting to the Congress a funding for Ukraine, which Congress has been approving to date.

So, we have two branches of government that you need to support Ukraine. And if the Congress pulls away from that support, because of some of the resistance of the Republican membership who's taking over in the house, that would be absolutely detrimental to Ukraine, and I think detrimental to U.S. national interests. So, I think there's a recognition here, that the visit between the President and President Zelenskyy is very important but equally important as president, as President Zelenskyy is addressed to the Congress to shore up continued support that he desperately needs if he's going to evict the Russians from his territory.

And what that means also, is obviously the American people are at play here. And that's the way it should be in this country; the American people have a voice and it's a strong voice and our elected officials respond accordingly. So, President Zelenskyy is being given an opportunity to strengthen that voice from the American people. And I think that, that is an excellent thing to do. And knowing Zelenskyy here, he will take advantage of it.

MACCALLUM: Yes, you know, there's been this comparison made to Churchill's visit, he actually stayed for several weeks, and was with the Roosevelt family over Christmas, as he was pushing Roosevelt for the lend lease deal in World War II. And I think when people look back at that, and there have been comparisons made between Zelenskyy and Churchill. Tell the American people in your opinion, you know, is this comparable? Is there such -- as the larger national security situation that is at stake here, comparable to what we were looking at in World War II?

KEANE: Yes, it is, very much so. I mean, we, we had rhetoric first out of Hitler, as we did out of Putin for a number of years about his aggression and desire to return territory under the control of Russia, and Hitler did the same. The leaders at the time, Martha, had all been through World War I, and they were worn down by that horrible reality. And they tried to dismiss and discard it. And eventually, they, they had to face it up squarely. And Hitler was on the march across Europe. We dismissed Putin for a number of years, and didn't take him seriously about the threats that he was posing to us about Ukraine, and also the other territories.

And here we are, and he's on the march. He's inside Ukraine. He wants to defeat that country. He's not given up on taking it over. And he would continue his aggression. He has already said that he wants to former Soviet Republics to be returned to Russia. And he would likely start with Moldova who's not a part of NATO, but then encroach on NATO. This is U.S. national interest. We have an opportunity without U.S.

soldiers being on the ground, Martha, to defeat this aggression inside of Ukraine. And what that means is considerable support that the Ukrainians need and give them the support they're asking for.

MACCALLUM: General Keane, thank you very much. We'll be watching this. We're waiting for a joint press conference in a little while. We'll go there live. General, always good to have you with us. Thank you very much.

So, here's another thing everybody's watching right now this massive winter storm that is barreling towards large parts of the country, senators could be stuck in D.C. until the wee hours of the morning voting on a massive \$1.7 trillion spending bill. Some Republicans are calling it an abomination that is being rushed through. Senator Rick Scott calls it a blank check to Democrats using taxpayer dollars. Here we go again, folks. We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: President Zelenskyy in Washington at this hour as senators prepare to vote on a nearly 5000-page, \$1.7 trillion spending bill. GOP senators describe it as egregious and say that they have only days to read through this package, which is more than three times the size of the Bible and it is stuffed with earmarks, stuffed with earmarks, folks, if I -- I'm going to tell you some of the things that are in here. In a moment, National Republican Senatorial Committee Chair Rick Scott and RNC Chair Ronna McDaniel, but first to Fox Business Correspondent Hillary Vaughn live at the White House. Hi, Hillary.

HILLARY VAUGHN, FOX BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Hi, Martha. Well, this is an opportune moment for Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, who will speak to Congress in person for the first time. He appeared before them virtually in March. Congress holds the purse strings for Ukraine aid as they are set to vote on another \$45 billion for the country in this spending package.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. CHRIS MURPHY (R-CT): Congress is supplying a new record amount of funding to Ukraine.

House Republicans have made some noises that they might be willing to continue to support military assistance to Ukraine but might not be willing to support economic assistance. Well, that plays right into Putin's hands.

VAUGHN (voiceover): Congress has passed three aid packages for Ukraine this year, totaling \$67 billion. Some Republicans on Capitol Hill have questioned the billions of U.S. taxpayer dollars that are flowing to Ukraine, not because they are anti-aid. They just want to see the receipts to see how taxpayer dollars are being spent.

SEN. MARSHA BLACKBURN (R-TN): It is not the sole responsibility of the United States. You have NATO, you have the E.U., it is important that people step up. We just want to make certain that there is transparency and accountability on how these dollars are spent.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

VAUGHN (on camera): The White House says the president is not wavering on his commitment to support Ukraine financially, however they need for as long as it takes, Martha.

MACCALLUM: Hillary, thank you very much. So, let's bring in Florida GOP Senator Rick Scott. He sits on the Budget Committee, he as Chair of the Republican Senatorial Committee. Senator, good to have you with us. Good afternoon to you. What is your take? Do you want to see this bill not pass at this point and what do you expect is going to happen?

SEN. RICK SCOTT (R-FL): Well, I think what we ought to do is we ought to give ourselves time to read the bill. It says, you said it's more than three times the size of the Bible. We got it yesterday morning, at 1:30 in the morning. You can't read it between now and we're going to vote on it. We're going to vote on tonight or tomorrow. There is no way -- there is not a person that's going to vote on this. It's read the bill. That's number one. But we ought to be doing this, we ought to do it.

Kevin McCarthy asked, give us -- give us continuing resolution sometime into the first quarter, but the new Republican Congress do the spending bill.

Would you rather have Nancy Pelosi and Chuck Schumer writes this bill, or would you rather have Kevin McCarthy write this bill, and have it come out of the House?

I'd rather -- I'd rather have the Republicans in the House do this rather than a Democrats.

And by the way, I mean, it's got 7500 earmarks. We're paying for skate parks in Rhode Island, we're paying for dirt bike culture in Baltimore.

I mean, it's unbelievable. We're paying for in the 7500 earmarks, and another -- it's borrowed money, \$1.1 trillion new that we're borrowing. It's going to be -- it's going to cause more inflation.

So, this is -- there is some good things in here. I support Ukraine aid. Now. It's got to be -- we got to understand how it's going to be used. I think it's got to be lethal targeted aid.

But there is some good things. But colleague, read the bill. Let's take your time and read this thing, and understand what we're voting on.

MACCALLUM: Yes. I think a lot of people agree with that. When it comes to President Zelenskyy, and his address to the joint session tonight, you know, what questions do you have about all of this? Do you support another \$45 billion that's in this omnibus bill to support this war effort?

SCOTT: We're still going through it. And as you know, we just got this yesterday morning. So, we're still trying to say, I believe in lethal targeted aid. So, let's understand exactly what what's going -- what's going to be in here, what they -- what they need to defeat Russia. I think it's in our national security interest to defeat Russia. Stop them. I'm very appreciative of everybody in Ukraine, what they've gone through.

I don't want to be at war with Russia, none of us want to be. So, I think we want to continue to help Ukraine, but we got to make sure we know how the money is spent. It has to be very transparent. It's got to be for lethal aid to stop Putin.

MACCALLUM: What do you say to those in this country who say, you know, when we have a secure border here -- Andy McCarthy wrote a piece about this in National Review, then, we can worry about the secure border in Ukraine.

SCOTT: Well, first off, I agree with them. And, as you know, this omnibus bill, which you should call the Pelosi-Schumer spending bill, it says that we can't spend money on border security here, but we are going to spend money on border security in countries like Egypt.

So, I think that we've got to -- we got to first off, take care of yourself. You can't help your neighbor if you can't take care of yourself. That's the first thing we ought to be doing.

Unfortunately, this bill doesn't do that. It doesn't get rid of 87,000 IRS agents, it doesn't do a lot of these things.

So, we ought to be doing individual bills. That's what we ought to be doing up here. But that's not what the Democrats want to do. They want to cram things into something right before Christmas and say, oh, if you don't vote for this, you're going to shut down government right before Christmas. So, you're Scrooge.

No, I'm responsible to make sure that people of Florida are taken care of.

MACCALLUM: It seems really irresponsible, that this is what we end up with all the time. I know Rand Paul stood in front of this bill.

You know, I've been doing this long enough to remember that there were lots of piles of paper that had been trotted out by various members of Congress.

I think people can't figure out why all of you folks can't get this done in a timely manner, when there's plenty of time to do it across the period of the year, looking for a little responsibility here, and not, you know, \$3 million for bee-friendly highways and \$65 million for salmon. So, it just - -

(CROSSTALK)

SCOTT: So, I ran from -- I ran to lead the Republican Party in the Senate to do this. Quick caving into the Democrats. Let's have real spending bills. Let's do this the right way.

MACCALLUM: Well, that's not where we are. We'll see what happens. Senator Scott, thank you very much.

SCOTT: Bye, bye.

So, joining me now, Ronna McDaniel, RNC chair. Ronna, good to have you with us today.

You know, when you listen to Senator Scott, how do you see this playing out? Are Republicans going to hold the line here and push this past Christmas? And get some of these things split up? Or are they just going to end up going along with it and signing it?

RONNA MCDANIEL, CHAIRWOMAN, REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE: Well, I'll say what the voters just told the American people in Congress as we wanted Republicans in charge of the House. And I think they want to see us wait, and make sure that we have Republicans in charge of the House before we pass an omnibus bill like this.

And I think Republican voters, especially, are distressed to see this being pushed through and hearing some of the things that are in it, especially not funding security for the border and other expenses that seem crazy.

I think you're right, Martha, it should be split up. Why is it all being pushed at the last minute, without the American people getting a good look, and they just voted for change? Let that change happen.

MACCALLUM: Yes, you know, there is an element in this with border security that essentially says that none of the money in this enormous almost \$2 trillion bill can be spent on technology to secure the border. Is that right?

MCDANIEL: Yes, that's what I've heard. I haven't read the bill like pretty much every senator and House member.

(CROSSTALK)

MACCALLUM: Right.

MCDANIEL: Right? Because it's 4,000 pages and it's being pushed in the dead of night.

Listen, a lot of Americans don't have faith in the Biden administration for good reason. We saw the terrible withdrawal from Afghanistan, we saw them be weak with Russia, lifting sanctions on Nord Stream 2 that put them in a place to invade Ukraine.

We've seen that what they've done with the border by allowing this porous border trying to get rid of Title 42. And they are saying, you know what, we just took this midterm election to put Republicans in charge of the House, and retire Nancy Pelosi.

And now you're going to push this through without the American people having a chance to even weigh in.

MACCALLUM: So, what do you think will happen here?

MCDANIEL: I hope we hold the line. I hope Republicans hold the line. I think Kevin McCarthy is right, to say we should wait. And I think that's what the voters in this country want. And I think that's certainly what Republican voters want.

MACCALLUM: So, Ronna, tell me a little bit about the race for the RNC chair. There is 168 members, we spoke to someone yesterday, who is one of those members, who wants to contest you for this chairmanship.

What do you say in response? And what's your argument for the midterm elections and how they went and why you should stay for another term?

MCDANIEL: Yes, so, there are 168 members, I have support from well over 100 members. And you know, the RNC infrastructure, Martha, is so critical. And we really can't risk stopping that before a presidential year.

And the infrastructure that we had is the reason why we had voter registration that allowed us to have huge gains in Florida and North Carolina, and Iowa.

Our community centers and our outreach, to black, and Hispanic, and Asian voters paid off in this election. Our election integrity efforts, all of these things, we have to keep our foot on the gas, heading into 2024.

Are there things that we need to improve? Yes, absolutely. And we need to always be looking at ways as a party to message better.

We've got to take on the abortion issue. I think in 2024, the Democrats use that very well in 2022. But the RNC and the row that we built helped a lot of candidate -- candidates get to the finish line, and that's why we took back the House. And we need that to win the Senate, keep the House and win the White House in 2024.

MACCALLUM: Ronna, thank you very much. So, it's great to have you here. Thanks for being here today.

MCDANIEL: Thanks, Martha.

MACCALLUM: You bet.

So, coming up, the Texas National Guard puts up razor fencing at the Mexico border. They're taking it upon themselves to sort of create a wall, given what is coming in the coming days to deter migrants from illegally entering the country, as the Biden administration battles to bring an end to Title 42.

A live report from the border. And then, we're going to speak with the former acting DHS Secretary Chad Wolf, as we watch this thing about to launch into what most people expect to be even more chaotic than what we've got.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. JOHN KENNEDY (R-LA): We view the southern border like we view the front door of our home. We, most Americans say walk out your front door at home at night.

We don't do that because we hate everybody on the outside. We do that because we love the people on the inside.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: So, the Biden White House now saying that the end of Title 42 would be better if it happened after Christmas, in terms of the timing. Acknowledging that any sooner could lead to a "disruption" and a temporary increase in unlawful border crossings.

Well, I think that's -- yes, that sounds pretty accurate.

So, more than 400 Texas National Guardsmen are now out there at the border, setting up about 1000 yards of razor wire along one of the most busy crossing points that there is, taking it upon themselves to try to block the border to the best of their ability from these illegal crossings.

Former acting DHS Secretary Chad Wolf is standing by. But first let's go to the border to correspondent Bill Melugin, who is reporting from Eagle Pass, Texas. Hi, Bill.

BILL MELUGIN, FOX NEWS CHANNEL NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT (on camera): All right, Martha. Good afternoon to you.

A lot going on all across the southern border today. So, we'll get right into it and we'll start you off in Arizona. Take a look at this video. Our team just shot this afternoon.

MELUGIN (voice over): In Yuma, Arizona, new video showing several 100 migrants who just crossed illegally into Yuma right past that border wall there. You can see they are standing around near that wall, waiting for Border Patrol processing.

CBP sources telling Fox News that Yuma Sector has been getting up to 1,000 illegal crossings every single day. That sector really starting to heat up.

Then, we'll bring it right where we are here in Eagle Pass. Once again, our thermal drone up in the air in the pre-dawn hours this morning.

Take a look at this video. As it was over a group of well over 350 migrants that crossed illegally into private property this morning.

It is getting very chilly down here at the southern border. Temperatures expected to drop into the 20s and the teens in the coming days. And that can get pretty dangerous for migrants, as a lot of time, they have to spend standing around, essentially, waiting to be transported and processed by these border patrol officials.

Then, we'll take you to the second piece of video. Earlier in the morning in Eagle Pass, we had another group of 200 crossed illegally. And as you can see, they needed a law enforcement escort down a local highway in order to find Border Patrol to be processed.

That sort of thing happens out here a lot in Eagle Pass. You'll see migrants all over the local highways on some days. Then, we'll bring you out to El Paso.

Martha, you are mentioning this off the top. It is even colder out there in El Paso. This is video we shot last night, showing 100s of migrants camped out on the U.S. side of the river after they crossed illegally.

You can see some of them starting campfires in an effort to stay warm. But you see those National Guard soldiers. You see the concertina wire, and you see a long line of migrants waiting behind that wire, hoping to be allowed into the United States, and to be released, as they are lining up. They are expecting that they're going to get into the country.

And then, lastly, we'll take you out to Arizona once again. Another major fentanyl bust, once again, at the Port of Entry in Nogales.

Take a look at these images. These smugglers continue to try to get as creative as they can. 10,400 fentanyl pills seized by CBP officers at the port of entry there, and it was all hidden inside of tubes of construction adhesive, which was hidden amongst different work tool. So, Martha, another fentanyl bus there.

MELUGIN (on camera): Back out here live, that just ties into what the DEA announced yesterday. They've seized enough fentanyl in 2022 to kill over 360 million people.

Texas DPS says they've seized enough in Operation Lone Star to kill more than 350 million people. That deadly product constantly coming in through our southern border. CBP gets as much of it as they can.

We'll send it back to you.

MACCALLUM: We lost 100,000 Americans to fentanyl poisoning over the course of last year. Bill, thank you very much.

With that, let's bring in Chad Wolf.

(CROSSTALK)

MELUGIN: Thanks.

MACCALLUM: Former Acting Secretary of Homeland Security, now the executive director of America First Policies Institute. He says the ramifications of the failed border are about to be felt in an unimaginable degree.

Chad, good to have you with us. Thank you for being here today. Describe for us what you mean by that. What do you expect?

CHAD WOLF, FORMER ACTING DHS SECRETARY: Well, obviously, what's going to happen if Title 42 goes away is you're going to see the number of illegal apprehensions continue to increase to an extent that is unimaginable, right? All the images that you're seeing now, Martha, is with Title 42 in place. Whether you talk about El Paso, South Texas or Yuma, these are pictures and these are numbers that are unsustainable today.

But if Title 42 goes away and there are no policies and no plans put in place to deter the illegal activity that we see, is you're going to see those numbers skyrocket. And then you're going to have an unmanageable situation which is already unmanageable, frankly, there at the local level. That is, you can't comprehend. Shelters are full, there's no more capacity in a lot of these cities and communities along the border, and it's only going to increase under the plan of the Biden administration.

So, as bad as it is now, and it is very bad, you're going to see an even worse situation. Should Title 42 be removed and nothing put in its place, which is currently the plan.

MACCALLUM: Well, that's the problem because this was always going to be a temporary situation, Title 42, because the pandemic is not going to last forever and we're in a very different place than were before. So you were at DHS, acting secretary, what would you do if you were in this situation? Title 42 is about to be lifted, how would you fix this?

WOLF: Well, it's very similar to the plan that we had prior to COVID prior to Title 42 being implemented. So we had the border wall construction underway. We had the Remain in Mexico Policy in place. We had asylum cooperative agreements with two countries, with a third one being negotiated. And then, we had another ten to 15 other programs that we didn't talk a lot about publicly that a lot of people won't recognize. But these are all initiatives so that we could continue to adjust as you put up a new program along that border. What I found is that the cartels, takes them about 30 days to understand what that is.

If you put MPP up in Yuma, Arizona, they start to understand about 30 days later and they will shift all the folks that they are pushing across the border into a different sector. It's a game of whack-a-mole with the cartels. And so you've got to continue to be innovative. You got to continue to put new policies and plans in place and you don't want to be stagnant, unfortunately.

And so, that's what I see from the Biden administration about 23 months of not doing anything new, not trying to disrupt the cartels and their business model. And what I think you're seeing is an unprecedented success that the cartels are having, pushing hundreds of thousands, millions of folks across that border. And it's because there is no integrated enforcement strategy coming from the US government.

MACCALLUM: No, they have nothing coming at them and they're making an enormous amount of money, these cartels. They own the border. They're making enormous amount of money in trafficking people across the border. Then, they're in business with China, which gives them the sources to make fentanyl. And because of all this chaos, they're able to make a lot of money pushing the fentanyl across the border as well.

Quick thought before I leave you, Chad, on how you would stop that, because we don't hear anything about the plan to stop that.

WOLF: Yes. If you want to get serious about the fentanyl crisis, you've got to target the cartels. And they're making millions of dollars every single day and every single week on the trafficking of human beings, and these numbers and these images that we see here. So once you crack down on that, it not only cuts their money supply, but it also starts to free up agents that can start either at the ports of entry looking for these illegal narcotics and certainly between the ports of entry.

A lot of the bus that we see from fentanyl comes at a port of entry, but we don't know what's coming between ports of entry and backpacks and other things because we don't have the agents out there because they're back in border patrol facilities processing migrants. So it takes a whole different strategy to really tackle both the human trafficking and the fentanyl.

MACCALLUM: Yes. Well, it's pretty clear we need a whole different strategy because it's not working what we're doing right now. Chad, thank you very much. Good to have you with us today.

WOLF: Thank you.

MACCALLUM: So more than 100 million Americans could be hit by subzero temperatures as a dangerous Arctic blast is heading towards a large part of the country with just days to go before Christmas.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: Breaking right now. Attorneys for the man accused of shooting up a New York City subway say that their client plans to plead guilty to ten federal terrorism charges. That's one count for each person. Frank James hit with a bullet when he went on a shooting rampage on April 12. They hope to enter the plea on January 3rd.

And they say it's a bomb cyclone that is taking shape, bringing bitter cold and life threatening wind -- wind chills, I should say, to a big chunk of the country, canceling flights and closing roads just in time for holiday travel. Temperatures so low in some parts of the US that frostbite could occur within minutes of exposure. Fox Weather's Mitti Hicks is live in hard hit Minneapolis where it is well below freezing this hour. Hi, Mitti Hicks.

MITTI HICKS, FOX WEATHER REPORTER: Well, good afternoon, Martha. I can tell you one thing I know about Minnesotans living here myself, is people really embrace the cold weather here. In fact, the colder and the more snow, people get really excited for all of their winter activities. But even for people who are used to this weather, it's just too cold to be outside.

So right now here in Minneapolis, it's negative three degrees. And checking with our Fox Weather Forecast Center, it feels like negative twelve degrees outside. And it's going to get much worse by the end of the week. And when I say much worse, that means it's going to get colder than this.

So the National Weather Service is advising people to use today to plan and prepare. That means go to the grocery store, make sure you have enough water to last you about three to five days just in case those pipes burst. And make sure you have extra batteries and flashlights in the event the electricity goes out. And if your house runs on electricity when it comes to the heat, you want to have a backup plan in place as well. A lot of places here in Minneapolis are going to open up those warming centers just in case, so people have somewhere to go to keep warm. It's not so much the snow that we're seeing that's making all of this dangerous. It's those cold temperatures that can just be downright scary, Martha.

MACCALLUM: Well, you bear it up very well, Mitti. And you look great out there, so I'm with you. I love winter and I embrace the outdoors, but these are pretty intense situations. We thank you so much for being with us today. Mitti. We'll see you soon. You did a great job out there, all right.

So coming up, disgraced crypto king Sam Bankman-Fried is expected to leave the Bahamas for the United States any moment. So he is going to be on a trip home not the one he probably expected. He faces charges in what is being called the biggest financial fraud in our history.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: So Republicans now accusing Democrats of politicizing the IRS after House Democrats on the Ways and Means Committee voted to release six years of former President Trump's tax returns. The committee also releasing its own report, faulting the IRS for failing to conduct a mandatory audit of Trump's taxes during his first two years in office. They're expected to be made public before Republicans take control of the House on January 3rd. You see this last dash before the change in majority in the House of a number of these things that are happening.

And breaking right now, Fox now confirming that accused crypto grifter Sam Bankman-Fried is about to leave the Bahamas, and he will be extradited to the United States where he will face eight charges in what officials describe as, "one of the biggest financial frauds in US history." Fox Business chief national correspondent Connell McShane live outside the federal courthouse in Manhattan. Hi, Connell.

CONNELL MCSHANE, FOX BUSINESS CHIEF NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT: Hey there, Martha. The extradition of Sam Bankman-Fried was approved by a judge in the Bahamas. That happened earlier today. Our current expectation is that he will leave that country sometime this evening. That could change, but that's our current expectation.

Bankman-Fried was seen earlier today being taken from a jail cell into the courtroom of the Bahamas. He officially agreed not to fight extradition. His lawyer in the courtroom read an affidavit which said he had a "desire to make the relevant customers whole." The judge then asked him if that affidavit represented his wishes. He said it did. That was around 11:00 this morning.

The next step, which is still basically in progress, is for him to be handed over to the FBI, then fly to New York, possibly tonight, make an appearance here at the courthouse in Lower Manhattan, where we expect he'll be granted bail, possibly tomorrow morning.

More on that when the US attorney Damian Williams holds a news conference, that's supposed to happen at some point today. We're still waiting on it, could fill in some of the gaps on timing and next steps. We know, as Martha reported a moment ago, that he's facing eight counts in federal court, starting with conspiracy to commit wire fraud on his customers right on down the line, whether it's commodities, fraud, securities fraud, or even a violation of campaign finance laws. This is all the basic same idea.

He's accused of taking customer deposits to his company, FTX, then using the money for other purposes. Now, when Bankman-Fried does make that appearance here in New York, and again our best guess is it would be tomorrow morning, he might very well walk out that door you see behind me free on bail, just as Bernie Madoff and others have done before him.

As we've been reporting this week, his lawyers are working on a deal with federal prosecutors, a bail deal. But the final call on that, whether it'll be granted, will be made by the judge, Martha?

MACCALLUM: Connell, thank you very much. We'll be watching, Connell McShane.

So I'm sure that many of you remember or have since seen this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Steelers, bad (inaudible) trying to get away. His pass is broken up by Tatum. Tipped off, Franco Harris has it, and it's over.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: Listen to that crowd. That play is known as the Immaculate Reception, and it's been called the most iconic play in the history of the game. It was by the former -- the Hall of Famer, I should say, and four time Super Bowl champion Franco Harris. Tragically, at just 72 years old, Harris died last night, two days before the 50th anniversary of that play and what was to be a huge celebration of him throughout this coming weekend.

Now, in that game, with 22 seconds left, the then rookie running back for the Pittsburgh Steelers caught the ball thrown by quarterback Terry Bradshaw to Frenchy Fuqua after the ball deflected towards the ground, was almost on the ground. He grabbed it and dodged the defense of the Oakland Raiders and scored the game winning touchdown. Boy, did that crowd go wild, as they still do when they watch it.

I am really pleased and honored to be joined today by Terry Hanratty, former NFL player and Steelers teammate of Franco Harris, who also played for the Fighting Irish in his college career. Terry, great to have you here.

I know this is a sad day for all of you who have been part of the great Steelers family and friends of Franco Harris.

TERRY HANRATTY, FORMER NFL PLAYER: Well, thank you, Martha. It's great to be here with you.

MACCALLUM: So, I want to just play this sound bite because I think this is likely from the last interview that he did and it was with CBS. They haven't played the whole interview yet. It was going to be part of this weekend recognition of him. Let's watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

FRANCO HARRIS, FORMER NFL PLAYER: I feel honored. That the first offensive jersey.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: That's a big deal, Franco.

HARRIS: You know, to be retired.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: It's a big of a deal.

HARRIS: It's quite an honor. I mean I was really speechless and taken back. I mean, that blew my mind.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: He was just such a good, gentle and fierce player and competitor. Give us your thoughts today, Terry.

HANRATTY: Well, you can't get a more unassuming and more humble person than Franco. You look at him. You think he's very shy. I think one of the great stories when he was a rookie, he didn't have a real easy start of it. They benched him after about five games, and you just didn't get the concept of the pro-game. After that, they put him in, and he ended up rushing for 1000 yards, Rookie of the Year and the Immaculate Reception.

But through the course of it, after a couple of games when he rushed for 100 yards, he was coming from Penn State, so everybody in the Pittsburgh neighborhood obviously knew him. And so, he ran for a couple of games for 100 yards, and everybody was really on the bandwagon. And so, we're driving home after one of the games, we (inaudible) Franco was over 100. And I'm driving there and all of a sudden I see this guy on the side of the street with his thumb out.

And I said to people with me, I said, that looks like Franco. I look over it, and it is. And I pulled the car over. I said, what the hell are you doing? He said, I don't own a car. I said what? You're the first round pick of the Steelers. You're rushing for 100 yards about every week, and you don't own a car? I said get in. I'll take you home. But he was fun. He was walking to the bus stop to take the bus home.

MACCALLUM: Oh my gosh.

HANRATTY: That was Franco. He was so unassuming. It was absolutely beautiful. It was just a beautiful individual.

MACCALLUM: Yes. There was a great fan group called Franco's Italian Army. I just have a few seconds left, Terry, but do you remember those guys?

HANRATTY: Oh, very much. I mean, those guys are crazy in the stands. When went out to Palm Springs to work out, Frank Sinatra showed up, and he became a member of the Franco's Italian Army. It was great times, great teammates, but we really missed Franco. It was going to be a big weekend, and I don't know what's going to happen now but very sad for the whole Steeler community.

MACCALLUM: Well, he is remembered today and honored today. It's such a sad thing that he did not get to witness this outpouring over the course of this weekend taken too soon to be sure. Terry, thank you so much. Always great to talk to you.

HANRATTY: OK. Merry Christmas, Martha.

MACCALLUM: You too. Merry Christmas, Terry. We'll see you soon, all right.

So coming up, the people of Ukraine living through Putin's war are fighting to keep the Christmas spirit alive in their country today, in a story that you will see only here.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: Live look now inside the White House where minutes away we will hear from President Zelenskyy. He will hold a joint news conference with President Biden. While back home, millions of Ukrainians prepare to celebrate Christmas. For the first time since Putin's invasion 300 days ago, they are praying for victory and for peace. As another sign of the country's resilience shines bright in the capital city of Kyiv. Correspondent Nate Foy reports.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

NATE FOY, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Under the constant threat of Russian airstrikes bringing power and water shortages, Ukraine is finding a new way to celebrate Christmas 300 days into war.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Russians try to steal normal life from our citizens but we don't give you a chance to steal. The biggest holiday in the year, Christmas from our children.

FOY: Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko lit the annual Christmas tree in Sofia Square, a far more modest celebration than in previous years. In normal times, Sofia Square where we are right now, would be absolutely packed with people celebrating Christmas. This year during war, you see smaller crowds on hand checking out Kyiv's Christmas tree. It was donated by local business owners. It's only lit up for 4 hours each day between 5:00 and 09:00 PM. And it runs entirely on generator power.

Doves on the tree symbolize peace, surrounding flags from every country helping Ukraine's war effort. In Kharkiv, a Christmas tree is underground. A subway station turned bomb shelter. Now a winter wonderland with Christmas entertainment for families as children in Ukraine's east received their first gifts on St. Nicholas Day.

Camouflage nets draped from a wartime Christmas tree in Mykolaiv.

IHOR FINKELSTEIN, MYKOLAIV RESIDENT (through translation): This is the Christmas tree of invincibility.

HANRATTY: As the US announces additional air defense for Ukraine --

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Because safety is main priority right now for everyone in Ukraine.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

FOY: Martha, because of the Soviet influence, many Ukrainians historically celebrate Christmas on January 7th. But now as Ukraine tries to move away from the Russian church, this will be the first year that many of them celebrate Christmas on the 25th. There are fears here in Kyiv and in other parts of the country that Vladimir Putin may send a message with more airstrikes on Christmas Day. We'll send it back to you.

MACCALLUM: It's a difficult environment to celebrate Christmas, but they are making the best of it and incredibly courageous. Nate, thank you for that report. Nate Foy reporting live days before Christmas from Kyiv. We thank him very much for that.

So that's THE STORY for today, Wednesday, December 21st. But THE STORY goes on. We look forward to seeing you back here tomorrow. Thanks for spending your time with us. We look forward to this news conference which is coming up at the White House in short order, and you will see that as Your World continues moments away. We'll see you tomorrow, everybody. Have a great evening.

END

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SE News; International

HD **Volodymyr Zelenskyy Expected to Visit Washington; Russian Air Campaign Continues; Interview With Sen. James Lankford (R-OK); Sam Bankman-Fried Set For Extradition; Interview With Rep. Tony Gonzales (R-TX); Title 42 Removal Put on Hold; Winter Storm**

BY Chad Pergram, Nate Foy, Charlie Gasparino, Aishah Hasnie, Bill Melugin, Connell McShane, Charles Watson, Katie Byrne, Neil Cavuto

WC 8,305 words

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SN Fox News: Your World w/ Neil Cavuto

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LP

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: They're saying, stand in this line, stand in that line. And we're standing in the line. We missed our flight to begin with.

TD

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: The whole time to talk to someone was about four-and- a-half-hours.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: We had to wait an hour-and-a-half for our luggage.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Because of the weather and de-icing, and because of that, now we have lost over \$10,000.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

NEIL CAVUTO, FOX NEWS ANCHOR: Ho, ho, no, it's happening again, as another fierce winter storm, this one known as a bomb cyclone, is about to blast much of the United States, wreaking havoc on travel plans for millions of Americans.

And we are here to help you. We're on top of all of it with Katie Byrne in Philadelphia, where airlines are scrambling to get folks some vouchers, Charles Watson in Atlanta on the big mess travelers are facing, whether in the air or on the roads, FOX Weather meteorologist Stephen Smith (sic) on just how bad this winter blast could get, and travel expert Lee Abbamonte on what you need to know right now to avoid getting caught up or unable to go anywhere.

Welcome, everybody. I'm Neil Cavuto. So glad to have you, as Mother Nature takes another jab at us, and this time, a lot more of us. Try close to three-quarters of the continental United States.

Let's get the latest right now from Katie Byrne at the Philadelphia International Airport, where folks are already dealing with this before actually getting hit with this -- Katie.

KATIE BYRNE, FOX MULTIMEDIA JOURNALIST: Yes, Neil, this massive winter storm is already -- already bringing snow to the Northwestern part of the country.

So, in parts of Washington, Montana, Idaho, you're already seeing snow there. And, unfortunately, the snow is already causing delays and cancellations at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport, so this storm really bad timing for the nearly 113 million people expected to be traveling this week and next week for the holidays.

And the storm is really just starting. This is just the beginning of it. But, by tomorrow, the snow is expected to reach the Midwest, before it turns more into a rain and wind event for us here in the east, but some airlines already sending out those waivers to passengers, offering to change their flights for free.

And even though we're all the way in Philly, nearly 3,000 miles away from where the snow is starting in Washington, the airport spokesperson here says weather like this can cause a domino effect, impacting flights here too. And we have already met a couple fliers facing delays today.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KARILYN DIAZ, TRAVELER: Coming here, I got earlier, but right now, I just saw my flight got delayed to Orlando, just probably like an hour later than it should be. But it's OK.

Anything after that, I get a little upset, but I'm OK with an hour.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BYRNE: So far, more than 30 percent of flights leaving Seattle-Tacoma International Airport have been disrupted today.

FOX Forecast Center also forecasting delays and cancellations in the Gulf states, so places like Orlando. You just heard from that passenger. She was headed there. She's dealing with a delay. But we're also looking at the potential for delays and cancellations in Atlanta and New Orleans because of rain and wind today -- Neil.

CAVUTO: All right, thank you very much for that, Katie Byrne, following all of that.

Want to go to Charles Payne (sic) out in Atlanta, the airport there, where they're also dealing with something that could get worse, if it isn't already worrisome enough -- to you, Charles.

CHARLES WATSON, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Yes. Hey, good afternoon, Neil.

The holiday rush is coming, just in time for the cold and wet weather that will almost certainly affect most of the country. Forecasts are calling for freezing temperatures throughout the Lower 48, while the Midwest is expected to get hammered by a bomb cyclone that will bring heavy snow and possibly blizzard-like conditions in places like Chicago and Milwaukee as early as Thursday and rain and sleet along the I-95 Corridor later this week.

Airlines and airports across the country are prepping for what could be a messy week, as travelers begin to feel the effects of dreaded delays.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KIM JIMENEZ, TRAVELER: We were waiting in line for security check-in. That took about an hour-and-a-half.

By the time we got to the plane, to the actual gate, they had told us that they closed the gate 15 minutes early.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

WATSON: Yes, those delays are piling up, Neil, more than 3,000 in the U.S. today, according to FlightAware.

Overnight, British Airways customers got a taste of what could be in store for air travelers as the week progresses. Hundreds of customers were left stranded at airports after a global I.T. issue grounded some of the airline's long-haul flights for hours. We're told that issue has been corrected.

Meantime, drivers should buckle up for delays on the roadways. AAA estimates more than 102 million holiday travelers will drive this year, and many could run into those snowy and icy conditions. But folks can at least look forward to seeing anything less at the pump. GasBuddy reports gas prices are down \$2 per gallon in the last six months.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

AIXA DIAZ, AAA SPOKESMAN: We're paying less for gas now than we were this time last year. So gas prices have come down pretty rapidly the past month- and-a-half. And that's helping a lot with putting money back in your pocket.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

WATSON: Yes, Neil, so the experts say it's all about preparation. If you're driving, know what are the best times to get on the road and what times you should be avoiding it.

And, if you're flying, check with the airport's Web site, so you know things like where to park and what TSA check lines, what their wait times are. And, also, check on the airline's app, so you can keep up with the status of your flight, Neil.

CAVUTO: Yes, I was thinking, Charles, as you reported, a lot of people looking at the possible frustrations with flying might take to the roads and complicate things there, right?

WATSON: Oh, for sure.

CAVUTO: Oh, man.

Charles Watson, thank you very much, my friend.

All right, so how bad does this get? And what are we to make of this blast?

Stephen Morgan, FOX Weather meteorologist.

Stephen, what are we looking at?

STEPHEN MORGAN, FOX WEATHER METEOROLOGIST: Neil, hate to say it, but when you say bomb cyclone, that's scary enough, right?

And, technically, it's this rapid strengthening of an area of low pressure. In fact, it could rival the superbomb. It's called the Cleveland Superbomb of 1978 for the lowest pressure for this part of the country. And we're talking the Great Lakes. But it's going to have major implications, whether that be down in Atlanta, where Charles is, or up into Philly, where Katie Byrne is.

It's mainly going to be a heavy rain event for that I-95 Corridor. But winter is settling in. Ironically enough, the first day of winter, Winter Solstice, is tomorrow. And with this area of low pressure that's going to trek right through the Great Lakes, we do have snow that's going to be a concern.

But I got to tell you, this isn't going to be the biggest headline. When we talk about the winds and these bitterly cold, even dangerous windchills, that's what could be life-threatening. Sure, we're going to see decent snows, maybe about five to eight inches in Chicago, into the -- into Michigan. We're looking on the eastern shores of Lake Michigan, downwind, as we would call it, in relation to where this low is going to track.

That's where we could see maybe a foot, foot-and-a-half. But that's thanks in part to the Great Lakes. But here are the winds, Chicago, the Windy City, 40-to-50 mile-per-hour wind gusts expected. This is Friday evening, so December 23, Indianapolis, 40-to-50 mile-per-hour winds to. Up into Buffalo, we could be approaching 70 miles an hour.

You factor in the Arctic air. There's cold Canadian air, but then we have air that's reserved north of the Arctic Circle. That's the type of air that we're going to see spill to the south. And already since the top of the hour, we have got windchill warnings which are now in effect for Montana, for the Dakotas, for all of Nebraska, parts of Kansas, even the Show Me State.

Windchill watches expand south all the way to the Mexican border. So this cold air is going to affect millions of folks. The one exception, a few of the spots, a little closer to the Four Corners region, temperatures actually not going to be too bad, as this dip really going to bring that chill.

I mean, look at these feels-like temperatures, dangerously cold. Frostbite can settle in a matter of minutes, Salina, Kansas, negative-21 as we head into the morning on Thursday, and that's just the beginning of it. We head a little farther to the south, and, of course, folks living in Texas, they think back to February of 2021, with that Texas freeze.

We won't see the temperatures that extreme, nor will we see it for that prolonged period, where ERCOT, that grid, failed, but we are going to see temperatures drop well below freezing. In fact, around New Orleans, we could have those windchills, when you factor in that north wind, in the single digits.

And that could be a pipe-busting type of freeze. So wrapping the pipes -- a lot of these homes don't have basements to, Neil, and so what we have are those water lines that are not dug too deep. They go in from the outside of the house. So, it's good to wrap those pipes. Going to be very cold in the south.

CAVUTO: Man, as you're showing that, Stephen, am I reading this correctly, in Tallahassee, Florida, 44 degrees?

MORGAN: Isn't that crazy?

Iguanas, they will get so cold that there will be falling from the palm trees. That's what happens when temperatures drop about below 50 or so.

CAVUTO: OK, all right.

(LAUGHTER)

CAVUTO: Stephen Morgan, thank you.

MORGAN: Exactly. Stay away from the iguanas.

CAVUTO: Man, oh, man, what I learn from you, my friend. Thank you, Stephen Morgan, FOX Weather meteorologist extraordinaire.

MORGAN: Sure.

CAVUTO: In the meantime, help from Lee Abbamonte here. He follows and tries to help travelers who don't want to be stranded, might already be stranded. What you can do to avoid being stranded.

Lee, always good to have you.

How is this shaping up thus far for the way you're seeing it now, where a lot of folks are getting flight cancellations and there are no other flight alternatives for the time being?

LEE ABBAMONTE, TRAVEL EXPERT: Well, now, this is kind of typical of the holidays, right? There's always something.

And this year is shaping up to be worse than others with the bomb cyclone. I love that word. And people should seek alternatives. I was just actually speaking to my sister. And she's flying out here to Los Angeles. And I told her to try to get now earlier if she could.

And I urge people to do that, because the airlines will let you change for free. So try to avoid the peak bad weather days, if you can, or consider flying into alternative airports. For instance, if you're flying to New York, for instance, maybe consider flying to Boston or Philadelphia and taking a train or driving, if that's an issue for you on that particular day.

And if you can possibly connect not in place like Chicago, like, if you're flying United, maybe consider connecting in Houston, changing your flight that way, to avoid the Midwest, awful airports.

CAVUTO: But can you do that, Lee, can you do that in the moment?

In other words, you just found out your flight has been canceled? Do you get on your smartphone? Do you talk to the ticket agent? What's the fastest way to find another flight?

ABBAMONTE: Absolutely.

I mean, for me, I'm always ahead of the airlines. I'm on things like FlightAware and apps like Triplt to get the delay information. And what I do is generally reach out to them on social media via Twitter direct message or call. Don't wait in the line at the airport. That will take forever and it's a waste of time. Or you can do both.

You can call and wait on hold and be online trying to message them. And, also, know your rights as a passenger. And people think that the airlines owe them something when weather delays their flights, but they actually don't. So I always tell people to have travel insurance.

I myself have an Allianz travel insurance annual policy, which has saved my butt a couple times this year. So just plan ahead and be ahead of the airlines.

CAVUTO: I just tell people I know Lee. And then they immediately find a seat for me.

ABBAMONTE: Neil, that's all you need to do.

CAVUTO: Yes, there we go.

(LAUGHTER)

CAVUTO: I should have thought of that.

All right, Lee, great seeing you. I hope you have a merry Christmas, my friend, Lee Abbamonte.

ABBAMONTE: You too, Neil. Thanks, buddy.

CAVUTO: And we hope you get to where you want to go.

But you should know that even Santa is having a problem with all of this. So we will keep you posted on how he's doing at the North Pole, because pretty much everywhere in the United States is going to feel like the North Pole.

All right, in the meantime here, checking the border, where there has been a Title 42 reprieve. The only issue is, for how long?

Let's get the latest from Bill Melugin -- Bill.

BILL MELUGIN, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Neil, good afternoon to you.

We are potentially just hours away from Title 42 ending tonight, depending on what happens with the Supreme Court, but, in the meantime, the state of Texas surging resources to the border.

Coming up right after the break, we will show you what Texas is doing to try and dissuade migrants from trying to cross the river.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. KYRSTEN SINEMA (D-AZ): The reality is, is that, if Title 42 is lifted, the flood of humanity that is currently approaching Arizona and Texas borders will multiply. It will become much more of a crisis than it is now.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CAVUTO: All right, but, for now, this message seems to be coming from Kyrsten Sinema about that it is a problem delayed, but it is not denied.

In fact, the Supreme Court might have just bought maybe a few days tops in this.

Bill Melugin in Eagle Pass, Texas, with more.

Hey, Bill.

MELUGIN: Neil, good afternoon to you.

That's right. Look, as everybody's waiting to figure out what happens with Title 42 and the Supreme Court's decision, the state of Texas, in the meantime, is trying to message to migrants that the Texas border at least is going to be closed. And here's what they're trying to do to send that message.

Take a look at this video right out of El Paso this afternoon, our team shooting video from Ciudad Juarez showing a deployment of Texas National Guard to the river's edge in El Paso. This is the area where they have been crossing in huge numbers in recent days. And you can see what they're doing now, laying down concertina wire, razor wire, and deploying lines of Humvees, as well as Texas DPS vehicles to give a fairly unwelcome imaging -- unwelcoming image to migrants who are thinking about crossing that river.

Again, 400 National Guard soldiers have now been deployed, sent there directly by Texas Governor Greg Abbott in anticipation of a potential mass migration event, which they are planning on potentially seeing if Title 42 drops.

We will show you what they're doing here in Eagle Pass. Take a live look at our FOX News drone. The last couple of days, including today, Texas authorities have been placing these large shipping containers right on the border here in Eagle Pass. This has been a popular crossing area for many months now. And there are some gaps in the shipping containers that were there.

So we have been watching them as they have been plugging all of those gaps, setting up more barbed wire and setting up floodlights, so, when it's nighttime, they can turn those on and see who and what is potentially crossing the border.

Then we will show you this video our team shot here in Eagle Pass this morning. Same old story, Groundhog Day, here in Eagle Pass, thermal drone showing a couple of hundred migrants who crossed illegally this morning, as usual, almost always single adults typically from the countries of Cuba, Nicaragua and Colombia turning themselves in because they believe they will be released after processing.

And then, lastly, we will take you out to Big Bend Sector in West Texas, extremely remote terrain. Texas DPS troopers finding and arresting three illegal immigrants from Honduras who were smuggling drugs. What do they have? Two pounds of fentanyl pills hidden in a little bag, as well as marijuana bundles totaling 172 pounds.

Texas DPS says, throughout Operation Lone Star, they have now seized more than 354 million lethal doses of fentanyl. And back out here live, Neil, it is simply just a waiting game. Department of Justice has until 5:00 p.m. tonight to file a response with the Supreme Court, to file a response with the Republican states who say Title 42 should not go away just yet.

But if it does end up dropping tonight at midnight, everybody along the border is expecting a major surge. We will have our teams deployed all along the Southern border if and when that happens -- Neil, we will send it back to you.

CAVUTO: You're always at the ready, Bill, and we appreciate that, Bill Melugin.

Well, you ever wonder where these migrants go or how they can house them or deal with them in the numbers they are?

Congressman Tony Gonzales has some video he wants to share with you. The Texas Republican congressman kind enough to join us.

Well, I think you got an answer to that, didn't you, Congressman?

REP. TONY GONZALES (R-TX): I did, Neil.

I visited El Paso, part of my district, a few days ago. And the video is shocking. I have visited that processing center many times. But I had never seen it like that, over 500 people in one cell. They can hold about 100 people. The numbers are absolutely through the roof.

Now, four days later, it is exactly the same thing. right now, I will give you an update of what's happening in El Paso, over 4,000 migrants in detention, over 2,000 coming across daily that are getting apprehended.

And what is happening is, 1,300 -- this is twice the amount of just a few days ago -- are now being released into El Paso. What does that mean? That means they have to go somewhere. The NGOs are completely overcapacity. So, the city is now housing them at the -- at the Convention Center. They're using El Paso School District facilities to house them.

The airport, which can house about -- have about 200, there are over 500 there. So it is beyond a saturation point in El Paso.

CAVUTO: And you do have to wonder. Let's say Title 42 does eventually go away, that this a couple-of-day, few-day reprieve ends. Then what?

GONZALES: No, that's exactly right.

And, look, the courts giving a stay only -- only buys time, if you will. And, once again, I urge the administration to sit down with Congress, and let's find a solution. Rhetoric isn't going to help us. Seeing these pictures, it reminds me of my time in Iraq and Afghanistan, where you deploy troops to the front lines.

The Red Cross is there. And we need solutions, real solutions. And there's some things the administration can do today. And that starts with the PACR program. That's getting immigration judges at the border. People get their cases heard in day -- in days, not years. And if they do not follow up qualify for asylum, it's expedited removal.

CAVUTO: We need to do something, like you said, that gets the crowds moving, and eventually the crowds away. We're a long way from that.

Congressman, thank you very much, and for sharing this video. Americans need to see what's really going on. And we do appreciate that.

In the meantime, Sam Bankman-Fried is coming to the United States. He has been extradited and will be here shortly. Now the question is, did they make sure that he stays in the United States?

Connell McShane, what's going on?

CONNELL MCSHANE, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Too many twists and turns Delta keep track of.

We thought we would see SBF, as they call him, here in New York facing federal charges as early as today. But, instead, at this hour, he's still in the Bahamas.

We will tell you why and what might happen next, when "Your World" continues in just a moment live from New York City. We will be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAVUTO: Well, after four days of losing ground, stocks gained a little bit of ground, the Dow about 92 points, but still seriously underwater and in danger of seeing no Santa rally.

Time's a wasting. What happens tomorrow? We're on it -- after this.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAVUTO: From billionaire wunderkind to jailbait for the time being, but we are learning that Sam Bankman-Fried, while he is remaining behind bars for now, he is on his way to the United States, or soon we will be, they're trying to make sure he's not a flight risk. Don't know if they have locked that down.

Connell McShane, though, covering it all in New York City.

What's the latest, Connell?

MCSHANE: Well, right now, Neil, he's still in the Bahamas.

And the latest is, there is a extradition hearing set to take place there tomorrow morning at 11:00 a.m. And that's when we expect him to officially waive his right to fight extradition, be handed over to the FBI, and then be transported here to New York for an initial court appearance in federal court some time later this week.

Last time he was seen in public was in that chaotic appearance in the Bahamas in court yesterday. And we actually expected him to agree to the extradition at that point. But he didn't do it right away. Instead, his lawyer eventually said after the court appearance that he wasn't going to fight it.

Once he does arrive here in New York, eight federal charges waiting, wire fraud, commodities fraud. There are securities-fraud related charges. There's even a campaign finance violation that you see there at the bottom. He is accused of using billions in customer deposits to his cryptocurrency exchange to fund his trading operation, his lavish lifestyle, and, yes, even his political donations.

If convicted, all this more than enough to put SBF behind bars for a long time.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

GUY LEWIS, FORMER U.S. ATTORNEY: The guidelines here are going to be a mandatory life. And mandatory life means, hey, you die in jail and they carry you out in a box. And that's all driven by the amount of the loss, which, in this case, really could be a billion dollars or more. It's going to make the Bernie Madoff case look like a small fish.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MCSHANE: Now, when Bankman-Fried does arrive here in New York, whether it's tomorrow or it's later in the week, FOX has learned he is expected, at least at this point, to be released on bail, a deal worked out between his lawyers and the federal prosecutors here in the Southern District.

The district court Judge Ronnie Abrams, an Obama appointee, would make the ultimate decision whether or not to grant bail in this case. But, first, he has to get here. And to get here, he has to leave the Bahamas. So that's why the focus now, Neil, is on the Bahamas tomorrow morning 11:00 a.m. in that hearing -- Neil.

CAVUTO: I would imagine that bill would be considerable.

MCSHANE: Yes, you would think.

It's been granted in some of these high-profile cases, especially in New York, in the past. And, again, our reporting suggests that there is a deal between the lawyers to grant the bail. But, again, the judge could come in and make a different decision. So we will see once he gets here how that's handled.

CAVUTO: Yes, judges can change everything.

Great coverage, Connell. I appreciate it.

MCSHANE: Yes.

CAVUTO: Connell McShane on all of that.

To Charlie Gasparino, who was on this story when nobody was.

I'm just wondering, what are we talking about here? Obviously, they're concerned that he's a flight risk. In the beginning, that was a concern, but they obviously take your passport away. That doesn't necessarily guarantee that you're still not. But where is this going, Charlie?

CHARLIE GASPARINO, FOX NEWS SENIOR CORRESPONDENT: Yes, I kind of think he's going to get bail.

I mean, Bernie Madoff, before he went to jail, was home, I guess essentially house arrest kind of.

CAVUTO: Right. Right.

GASPARINO: Yes, he couldn't leave his apartment in Manhattan. I mean, I kind of think he's going -- we're getting the same way.

There are key differences. Bernie Madoff completely admitted to the whole thing. He -- I mean, he essentially was cooperating with what was going on. This is not quite a cooperation. He's actually pleading innocent, right, not guilty, I should say, to this.

So it's a lot different. And the other thing is, is that when -- so Bernie Madoff is there and he's, like, at least helping at some point the prosecutors. His fate was sealed. There was nothing he could lose by helping.

There's a lot he could lose, meaning Sam Bankman-Fried, by helping. And that's why I think they are afraid -- that's why I'm a little hedging here about whether they're going to get bail, because he's not admitting to anything. They haven't found anything.

I mean, what's fascinating about this, is that I know you had the congressman on before who said that this can be bigger than Madoff, make Madoff look like small potatoes. You got to put it in context. Madoff was something like a \$40 billion, \$50 billion ripoff Ponzi scheme.

The bankruptcy trustee Irving Picard was able to trace back and claw back about half of that, OK? So, people -- a lot of people got what their -- got some of their initial investment back, or all of their initial investment back, not the gains, but some of that investment back.

CAVUTO: Is there any chance of that here, Charlie?

GASPARINO: That's where it gets really crazy.

I mean, this is an \$8 billion, maybe -- I don't know. The numbers are all over the place. But let's, for sake -- for sake of argument, let's say it's a \$5 billion missing of customer money, that none of it could come back. So, to see, on a proportion scale, this is where this becomes bigger than potentially Madoff because, remember, Madoff was literally money in from people, money out from anybody that wanted to take their ill-gotten gains, or their gains that they thought was -- their paper gains that they thought were real.

This is different. This is money, allegedly, if you follow the indictment, taken from customer accounts, and then gambled away in the sort of global casino of crypto.

CAVUTO: Right.

GASPARINO: I don't know how you claw that back. I mean, some of it can be clawed back, I guess his houses and stuff like that. But a lot of this other stuff cannot be.

CAVUTO: Or from the original beneficiaries, though, the Hollywood stars and others.

The reason why they I guess they mentioned a Ponzi scheme a lot, they have them on board, pay them, make sure they're happy. But what is the possibility of extending that to people who benefited early vs. people who were screwed?

GASPARINO: It's just where the source is.

CAVUTO: Right. Right.

GASPARINO: Obviously, yes -- and you got to figure out a cutoff date when it became a Ponzi scheme. I mean, that's all for the bankruptcy trustee to figure out.

But once you establish a relevant dates, then you see, OK, what did he reliably spend money on that came from the ill-got -- that came from the pilfered accounts. But here's where it gets crazy. A lot of the stuff that he spent on wasn't on houses. I mean, we're talking billions that wasn't. It was just lost in trades.

CAVUTO: OK.

GASPARINO: That, I don't think you can claw back. Those people were not kind of part of the whole system. They were just trading with him anonymously or whatever in the open markets.

CAVUTO: Yes.

GASPARINO: And that is where it -- this becomes potentially bigger than Madoff.

CAVUTO: Yes, what a mess. What a mess.

GASPARINO: It's a mess, yes.

CAVUTO: Charlie Gasparino, thank you, my friend, very, very much.

In the meantime here, we do know that government spending is out of control, right? And the proof isn't only in the latest figure for a spending measure of some, what, \$1.7 trillion, but the sheer size explaining the measure itself.

You are looking at, what, 4,155 pages looks like to describe a massive spending measure.

And, according to Aishah Hasnie, it might not be over yet -- Aishah.

AISHAH HASNIE, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: That's right.

We are awaiting a Senate procedural vote, but a lot of Senate Republicans are raising the alarm, sounding the alarm, saying, look, this is 4,000 pages' worth of a lot of spending that includes goodies, just personal pet projects from different lawmakers.

We're going to take a look at it on the other side of the break.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

RONALD REAGAN, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: The long-term continuing resolution.

(LAUGHTER)

(CHEERING AND APPLAUSE)

REAGAN: This one was two months' late. And it's 1,057 pages' long, weighing 14 pounds.

(LAUGHTER)

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CAVUTO: We were thinking, what would the Gipper think of this?

This stack represents the wording and the pages behind a \$1.7 trillion omnibus spending bill. You need to be a speed reader to really go through all this. Fortunately, I am, so I can quote you a couple of lines, spending more money than God, spending more money than God, spending more money than God, spending more money than God.

And it goes on like that for over 4,000 pages, four times what Ronald Reagan was referring back to in 1988.

I think that's before Aishah Hasnie was even born.

(LAUGHTER)

CAVUTO: And now she's covering something even more gargantuan -- Aishah.

HASNIE: Neil, I want to see you carry that around, though, in the studio.

CAVUTO: Impossible. Holy cow.

HASNIE: Can you pick it up even?

CAVUTO: This thing is amazing, amazing.

HASNIE: No, not at all. Incredible, 4,000 pages. So, the 1,000 that Reagan was holding, nothing compared to this.

And you're right. Not a lot of time for lawmakers to even sift through and read what the heck is in this bill, but you got lawmakers here on the Hill who are trying to get out of here and get back home before the storm hits and get back home to their families for Christmas.

Look, we are in a waiting game right now before this Senate starts to vote, so let's at least sit down together and take a look at what we found inside this 4,000-page bill. OK, you, the taxpayer, you are about to pony up \$850 billion on defense funding, and \$770 billion on domestic spending, and that includes \$45 billion in Ukraine aid, \$40 billion for disaster relief, billions for programs that were authorized by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the CHIPS Act, and the PACT Act, which is for veterans.

The Electoral Count Reform Act in response to January 6, that's in this bill too, as is Senator Josh Hawley's TikTok ban on government devices. OK, there's a lot of pet projects too underneath hidden in this, so to speak, Christmas tree bill, Neil.

For example, Senator Susan Collins and some other lawmakers from Maine, well, they got a pause on regulation hurting the lobster industry in that state, while House progressives, they got an extra \$25 million for the National Labor Relations Board, so a lot of little pet things that people have been working on that has really nothing to do with defense spending.

So, the Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget actually called the budget too late and too big, as several Senate Republicans are trying to sound the alarm. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. RON JOHNSON (R-WI): This is the gateway drug to the massive deficit spending, to the mortgaging of our children's future. It has to stop.

SEN. MIKE LEE (R-UT): But in the sense that it's a corrupt process, you hand out enough special favors here or there to get this or that proposal, this or that funding priority in there, you throw out 7,500 earmarks, and you're going to get a lot of people to jump on board. That isn't right.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HASNIE: So, Neil, now all eyes are on Leader Mitch McConnell, who, by the way, has endorsed this bill, calls it a big win for the GOP.

But he's got to get 10 Republicans on board to get this thing out of the Senate and onto the House, and all before this deadline on Friday.

CAVUTO: All right.

HASNIE: Do you think that's going to happen?

CAVUTO: I sent a copy of the measure to you, but I requested that you personally carry it back to your office in D.C.

HASNIE: OK. I'm coming to New York.

CAVUTO: All right.

HASNIE: I don't want you to strain anything. I'm going to help you out.

(LAUGHTER)

CAVUTO: All right, Aishah, amazing. You're so right. It is absolutely amazing.

Senator James Lankford, Republican of the beautiful state of Oklahoma, with us.

It's always good to have you, Senator.

Would you be among those 10 Republican senators who would sign off on this?

SEN. JAMES LANKFORD (R-OK): I am not among those 10 Republican senators.

And it's interesting to note that absolutely zero people have read this bill at 4,000-plus pages that was released literally in the middle of the night last night. And so, as everyone's trying to be able to piece through it...

CAVUTO: Who writes it, Senator? Who writes it, then?

I always wondered, even back in the Reagan days, when he had 1,000-plus pages, who is putting all this together and writing it?

LANKFORD: So, this actually gets put together by several the committee staff.

And so the committee staff will put it together. They will put together a section of it, but they have read their section. That particular group of staff has read that section. Most often, the members that oversee those staff haven't read that section. They get a synopsis from their staff, but no one has actually read all of it. And it all gets pulled back together. And then it has a vote that actually happens on it.

When you talked about the Reagan piece before, so that was 1,000 pages. This is 4,000 pages. The Reagan total deficit from the beginning of our country to Reagan was \$1 trillion. It's now at \$31 trillion, so, just from Reagan to now, we have added an additional \$30 trillion in total American debt.

That's why this is such a big issue, to say we continue to accelerate the debt.

CAVUTO: Yes, but your leader in the Senate, Mitch McConnell, likes it.

LANKFORD: I'm aware of that. But it is the challenge that we have.

CAVUTO: So, where does that put you with Senator McConnell?

LANKFORD: Well, we don't always agree. And he and I are very open about that and have open conversations about that.

He considers it it's not as bad as it could have been. It could have been worse. To me, though...

(CROSSTALK)

CAVUTO: Well, does he have any other Republican support, Senator, anyone else who will...

LANKFORD: He does. He does.

CAVUTO: Does have 10, to your knowledge?

LANKFORD: I believe that he does, actually, that they have enough Republicans for it.

CAVUTO: So, this is going to happen? Bottom line, this is going to happen?

LANKFORD: In all likelihood, this is going to happen.

And the argument will be is, it could have been worse. It could have been even larger, but we are able to negotiate down. It'd be like someone being on a diet and going to 100-item buffet and saying, I only ate 85 of the items. I didn't eat all 100.

(LAUGHTER)

LANKFORD: And so it wasn't as bad as it could have been.

CAVUTO: Right.

LANKFORD: I mean, ultimately, yes, it could have been even worse than this.

But we still have a deficit in this bill as large as Reagan, the total debt of our country from the beginning of the country to Reagan. It's a very big number.

CAVUTO: There's a big divide in your party, sir, because a lot of the people in the House are saying, look, the Senate might be still Democrat in the new year, but the House won't be.

So, why don't we just get a C.R., continuing resolution, just enough to limp us by into the new year, when we in the House are controlling things? At least we can mitigate this damage.

Kevin McCarthy wants to do that. Mitch McConnell does not. What do you think?

LANKFORD: Yes.

There's a big disagreement on what would happen with that. I'm of that group to be able to say, allow a Leader McCarthy to have a major voice in this. Allow the Republican committees to be able to negotiate this in the House. That gives us leverage. There are other Republican senators that are here that feel like, if that happens, actually, we're going to have a government shutdown, and we're going to have all kinds of problems.

I understand where they're coming from on it. I think there's the greatest benefit to, long term, having a Republican and a Democrat actually at the negotiating table on this, and to be able to actually try to be able to find ways to be able to reduce our spending and to be able to control those areas as much as we possibly can.

We do need to keep the government open and functioning.

CAVUTO: Right.

LANKFORD: But we do need to control our spending at the same time.

CAVUTO: Senator Lankford, thank you very much.

If I don't talk to you again, sir, have a merry Christmas, but maybe you have some reading to do first.

But, Senator Lankford, thank you very, very much.

Another development in Washington we're closely following is, the House Ways and Means Committee has been going through whether to release Donald Trump's tax returns from the years 2015 to 2020. There is no decision that's been made, but it could be a matter of time before they are public.

This was among the many issues I raised with Chris Sununu, the New Hampshire governor, who said the backdrop for 2024 is already on. Take a look at this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CAVUTO: CAVUTO: Are you going to run for president?

GOV. CHRIS SUNUNU (R-NH): You're a national star.

CAVUTO: You're in New Hampshire. It's the first -- at least in the Republican Party, it's the kickoff primary.

SUNUNU: Yes.

CAVUTO: That gives you a certain advantage. You won in a walk for reelection. You could make a credible case.

Would you join the fray?

SUNUNU: Well, look, I -- yes.

CAVUTO: What would make you decide one way or the other?

SUNUNU: Well, first, I have to see whether my application to be the CEO of Twitter comes through.

(LAUGHTER)

SUNUNU: If that doesn't come through, I guess all options are on the table for the future.

CAVUTO: OK. All right, let's...

SUNUNU: Look, people are talking about it. I get it.

CAVUTO: Yes.

SUNUNU: And we're having conversations.

But, right now, my focus is really on New Hampshire.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CAVUTO: All right, of the political chatter.

If we hear anything out of the House Ways and Means Committee and what it's going to do about those Trump taxes, we will keep you posted. We just don't know yet.

What we do know is, half-a-world away in Ukraine, it is still all fight all the time and Russia getting deadlier or nastier by the moment. We will have the latest from there -- after this.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAVUTO: All right now taking a look now 300 days into this war in Ukraine, not only how long it can drag on, but, right now, how long and nasty and brutal this latest air campaign on the part of Vladimir Putin can go on.

We do know that President Zelenskyy is at the front line, making sure that he knows and his people know he's grateful for their efforts.

Nate Foy has more from Kyiv -- Nate.

NATE FOY, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Hey, Neil.

Yes, a surprise visit today for President Zelenskyy in Bakhmut. It's been a symbolic holdout for the Ukrainians, a very dangerous place for President Zelenskyy to be. When he was there, he handed out awards to soldiers. They then handed him a gift meant for the United States.

I will show you that in a second. First, I want to show you how dangerous this was for President Zelenskyy, as you can hear an explosion in the middle of his speech. Take a look.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

(EXPLOSION)

(END VIDEO CLIP)

FOY: You can see he barely flinched, Neil.

I mentioned that gift, though. Ukrainian soldiers presented him with a signed Ukrainian flag, and they asked him to deliver it to the United States Congress. Now, soldiers wrote messages on the flag thanking the United States for weapons and military support throughout the war.

Zelenskyy said he would deliver the message. Take a look at this next video. This comes as intense fighting continues in Bakhmut. This is where Zelenskyy was today. Russia has been focusing on this city for months. But Ukraine is putting up a stiff resistance.

In a rare admission of struggles today by Russian President Vladimir Putin, he described the situation in the east as -- quote -- "extremely difficult." Listen to this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

VLADIMIR PUTIN, RUSSIAN PRESIDENT (through translator): The situation in Donetsk and Luhansk's People's Republic and in the Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions is extremely difficult.

We must bear down hard on the actions of foreign special services and quickly identify traitors, spies and saboteurs.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

FOY: Neil, that last part was in reference to another announcement today by President Putin where he ordered the FSB to increase surveillance of Russian citizens, trying to identify traitors in the country.

And this comes as the U.K. defense secretary estimates that Ukraine has recaptured 54 percent of the land once occupied by Russia during this war.

We will send it back to you.

CAVUTO: Thank you, my friend. Be safe, Nate Foy, in Kyiv.

Well, this war has dragged on, hard to believe, almost a year, a couple of months from a year, and not once, not once throughout the war has President Zelenskyy ever stepped foot out of the Ukraine. He is about to, and you will never believe where.

Maybe that building on the right is a hint.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAVUTO: Take a wild guess who's going to stop by the United States Capitol tomorrow. I will give you a hint. He leads a country called Ukraine.

Chad Pergram on this incredible development.

Chad, what are we learning?

CHAD PERGRAM, FOX NEWS CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENT: We have learned here on the past half-hour that Vladimir Zelenskyy is going to leave Ukraine for the first time since the war started and come to speak to a joint meeting of Congress in the House chamber tomorrow night.

You might remember that Zelenskyy spoke to a joint meeting of Congress virtually in mid-March of this year. This is the first time that he has left Ukraine. He left Ukraine to go to Munich just for a few days before the war started.

And there was a cryptic message that was sent by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi just about an hour ago to her members. She wants members to come back to Washington to vote for the omnibus spending bill. And I thought that this message was a little bit strange, because they have remote voting in the House of Representatives, and not everybody would need to be here in person to cast their ballots.

And it says -- this is the message from Pelosi -- "We are ending a very special session of the 117th Congress with legislation that makes progress for the American people, as well as support for democracy. Please be present for a very special focus Wednesday night."

Now, this comes just as Congress, both the House and Senate, are on the precipice of passing \$45 billion for Ukraine as part of this omnibus spending bill. We believe this could go through the Senate as early as tomorrow, maybe Thursday, and then move it through the House of Representatives some time later this week.

That is the plan. But this is very interesting by Nancy Pelosi to say, people, you should come to Washington for this. This is significant. The House and Senate meet in joint meetings of Congress, not a joint session of Congress, but a joint meeting of Congress, when they entertain foreign leaders.

This could be the prime minister of the United Kingdom. This could be the pope, or, in this case, the leader of Ukraine, Neil.

CAVUTO: It is unusual in that respect.

We do know that this is definitely on and an address to Congress tomorrow night?

PERGRAM: Right.

And I was told here that this could be called off if there are security concerns.

CAVUTO: Sure.

PERGRAM: I have been led to believe that they were very worried about this, the fact that he has not left.

You had a number of leaders go to visit him in person. Nancy Pelosi went pretty early on back in February or March.

CAVUTO: Amazing stuff.

Chad, thank you very much that, Chad Pergram.

Again, that means the President Zelenskyy, for the first time in this nearly-one-year-long war, is going to leave Ukraine to address a joint session of Congress tomorrow night. We're on top of that and so much more.

We will take you right now to "The Five."

END

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HD **Media Meltdowns After Twitter Suspends Journalists; Sam Bankman-Fried Family Called Prison To Request Vegan Meals; Woke Left Pushes To Dumb Down Education; Crazy Video Shows Pilot Ejecting From Fighter Jet; Lost In Translation: Gen Z Stumping Coworkers With Words Like Bussin; Office Holiday Parties Are Back!**

BY Jesse Watters, Dagen McDowell, Jessica Tarlov, Sandra Smith, Will Cain

WC 7,930 words

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LP

NEIL CAVUTO, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: You were great and I look forward to talking to you more on this.

By the way, we are going to pursue this topic a little bit more tomorrow on a special weekend show.

TD

We've got Christopher Olivarez joining us here to take the countdown to Title 42 going away, Virginia Senator Tim Kaine as well, the implications of all of that. See you tomorrow. Here's THE FIVE now.

JESSE WATTERS, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Hi, everybody, I'm Jesse Watters along with Dagen McDowell, Jessica Tarlov, Sandra Smith and Will Cain. It's 5:00 in New York City and this is THE FIVE.

The liberal media freaking out after getting just a tiny taste of censorship, Elon Musk going on a late-night massacre, temporarily suspending the accounts of at least a half a dozen left-wing reporters from the New York Times, CNN and the Washington Post. He even gave a little timeout to the guy who used to be Keith Olbermann.

Musk claims they doxxed him, putting out what he calls assassination coordinates by sharing an account that tracks his private jet in real-time.

The billionaire points to an incident in L.A. this week where a stalker jumped on the top of his car that his kid was in and he said this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ELON MUSK, CEO, TWITTER: Showing real-time information about somebody's location is inappropriate. And I think everyone on this call would not like that to be done to them. And there's not going to be any distinction in the future between journalists, so-called journalists and regular people. Everyone is going to be treated the same. They're not special because you're a journalist.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

WATTERS: AOC is really mad, saying this, I get feeling unsafe but descending into abuse of power and erratically banning journalists only increases the intensity around you. Take a beat, and lay off the proto-fascism. Maybe try putting down your phone.

And the same media that yond at the censorship of the Hunter Biden laptop story are all of a sudden melting down, watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

STEPHANIE RUHLE, NBC NEWS SENIOR BUSINESS ANALYST: This seems really scary, OK.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: The chaos, the ego, the insults, and the fact that he is bringing down an institution and the Twitter is not the Republican Party. But it certainly feels like we're in the dying days of this platform unless something changes quickly.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I think this raises a big question about what the free press -- for the future of the free press on Twitter looks like.

DONIE O'SULLIVAN, CNN REPORTER: I worry about the chilling effect that this might have on those reporters, particularly when you think that Musk also owns these other companies, Tesla and SpaceX .

What if you're in Germany or elsewhere, and you're reporting on maybe poor working conditions? Is he going to come and just stamp you down because he says, oh, that's against the rules.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

WATTERS: Jessica Tarlov cannot wait to talk about this story. What would you like to say?

JESSICA TARLOV, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CONTRIBUTOR: I would like to say that I think that Elon Musk needs a content moderation team. That he needs the Trust and Safety Council to come back so that people could actually see that there were folks and not just one man deciding that because his feelings got hurt, or he felt unsafe, even though that Elon jet account is just publicly available information, right.

So, let's be clear about that. And that assassination attempt on his child, and it is very scary for someone to climb on top of a car that has your kid in there. He didn't report it to the police, which seems strange. And then Donie O'Sullivan, one of the reporters that we just showed, got suspended from Twitter for just tweeting out the fact that the LAPD had said that he didn't file a report, had nothing to do with his coordinates, nothing to do with an assassination at all.

And the transition from Republicans being up in arms about preserving the First Amendment to you know, cry harder libs, is really something to behold.

So, he changes the terms of service a couple of days ago to shut down the jet tracker, which he did explicitly said, I'm never going to shut down.

And the new terms of service are so vague that Jesse if I took your picture right now.

WATTERS: Yes, hold on, now try it.

TARLOV: (INAUDIBLE). And I posted it on Twitter , the geolocation of that would qualify as a violation of the terms and service.

So, I could be suspended for Twitter for harming you, for taking picture of you right now. And using just what's in this app.

WATTERS: So, you're just complaining the terms of (INAUDIBLE) arbitrary, that's so funny.

TARLOV: No, but he just changed it. No, I'm not done.

WATTERS: Oh, please continue.

TARLOV: He's suspending people who are aggravating him, who are hurting his feelings like Lynette Lopez from Business Insider who has been looking into him for years because of Tesla . That's a company that she covers.

She just got suspended for putting up old information about him about the fact that Elon Musk actually has a habit of doxxing people that he doesn't like from the past. She's off.

If you care about the First Amendment, you should all be up in arms about this, especially the fact that he doesn't even have a committee of people paying attention --

SANDRA SMITH, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: So, what's the content moderation team going to do? So, if you publish that picture of Jesse, is that moderation team then going to explore --

TARLOV: He doesn't have one.

SMITH: -- the intent of your posting of that picture? So, I would take it a step further. Just be transparent with the rule.

So, obviously, what he's decided and he did tweet this out. It's amazing how none of these journalists actually reference back to this. But Elon Musk said any account doxxing real-time information on anyone

will be suspended. Because Twitter considers that a physical safety violation, including posting links to sites with real-time location info.

He said on a slightly daily basis, that won't -- you will not be banned for that. So, this is real-time information. So fine, have the content moderation team, but have the rules, spell the rules out and reference back to them when somebody is banned. And I don't think anybody will take issue with somebody running a company who makes those decisions. The one off decisions by Elon Musk is what everybody's taking issue with and the subjective nature of that.

WILL CAIN, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: So, Jessica, your sales pitch to us here today is that Elon Musk should adopt a content moderation team because it would somehow be less arbitrary and less opaque in what we've lived under for the past four or five years, Twitter had a content moderation team. And it silenced people for any host of reasons they wanted at any given moment or any given suggestion by the FBI , and not just conservatives.

How about Dr. Jay Bhattacharya of Stanford University who happen to push back on the latest COVID orthodoxy. What you're suggesting is let's go back to the way it was. I'm not going to sit here to tell you today that Elon Musk exercising arbitrary power is perfect. But please don't tell me that what we had before was better.

I believe in free speech. And I think more speech is always better. Elon says his line is doxxing. And he also says by the way, he's playing information was not public, that it was private.

TARLOV: That's not true.

WATTERS: Well, let me -- let me update you on that. Because the FAA gives Elon a new plane identifier every month because of threats to his safety.

But this guy, this Musk tracker, wrote software to hack it, so he can get around that. So, it's not just publicly available information, the guy is a creep.

TARLOV: Sure, OK. But if you are trying to assassinate Elon Musk , or to steal his child, which is what he's alleging, you know how to get that information besides just going on Twitter and clicking on what Elon jet has to say.

And I would add that Bellingcat did an investigation of the location of the car and it wasn't at an airport.

WATTERS: So, let's not make it easier to do on the platform that he owns, right? Just like you wouldn't want people to know where you were. Actually, they know where you are at 6:00 every single day. But besides that, you don't want that. Dagen.

DAGEN MCDOWELL, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: I just love the balling, and baying and howling, and halling of these journalists who ignored all of these Twitter files like the New York Times , it was right on the web page about Musk and Twitter and banning the journalist. They have uncovered these Twitter -- these Twitter file dumps at all.

Washington Post all of them, the nefarious going on, the censorship, the election interference. (INAUDIBLE) but now this is news worthy because they're the story. I love it. But I am not surprised.

The only thing I'm surprised about with Elon Musk is that he didn't start doing this sooner. He spent \$44 billion on this money losing sewage lagoon.

And do you know, Jesse, you understand this? Do you know how badly people whine and behave when they pay for a full-price first-class airline ticket?

So, can you imagine spending \$44 billion on this heap of crap? So, he's selling Tesla stock to prop it up. He sold three -- more than \$3.5 billion in Tesla 's stock recently, \$23 billion worth of Tesla stock this year. Tesla 's stock fell 16 percent in the last five days. It's at like a multi- year low. And he's got to extract some pleasure out of this nightmare.

So, you know, what's the point of having all that money if you can't throw your weight around and banish some people you find irksome? That's all he's doing.

Right now, he's a benevolent king. Wait until he really starts going after people he doesn't like.

Listen, we have -- we know how like crazy rich people can act. He's not anywhere close to Howard Hughes.

TARLOV: So now it's --

CAIN: I for one vote that we bring back Keith Olbermann immediately. A long live stream of his reaction over the past --

MCDOWELL: They should all be brought back.

CAIN: Or maybe he's been fired from every job he's ever had and now, he's getting fired from jobs he hasn't had.

TARLOV: I get that it's funny to make fun of Keith Olbermann. But I just want to be clear before we go to break that we have moved from savior of the First Amendment to sort of decent, whatever dictator and that's cool?

MCDOWELL: No, I think all of these people should be brought back on the platform, but it's not -- in Elon's world, it's not really free speech. It's spee freech.

TARLOV: Oh, I guess I didn't get that memo. And now I completely understand what's going on.

WATTERS: She's saying that it comes back in seven days, they'll be back. And they broke the rule, they knew the rule, they broke the rule. They're suspended, and they'll come back. Is that so bad? Now they know the rules, so they won't break them again.

TARLOV: If it is supposed to be the public square --

WATTERS: Political rules and norms that Kamala always talks about, we have to have rules and norms.

TARLOV: Oh, that's a fun device. Now we'll start talking about Kamala Harris. And then we won't deal at all with the topic at hand. Why she haven't been to the border?

MCDOWELL: Musk walked off in an interview with me years ago. Wait, he --

CAIN: Can I ask one more question before we go? Why did these suspensions matter but the ones for the past four years, didn't?

TARLOV: They did matter. And so we read the Twitter files, and we did read them and they were covered. And the problem is, is people in like the coverage because there was nothing to it. Jerry Baker from the Wall Street Journal wrote about it.

He said the reason that people aren't up in arms about this is because of things we already know. Trey Gowdy said it, I was on SPECIAL REPORT with him early week.

WATTERS: Those things we assumed but now we have proof.

TARLOV: I'm sorry.

WATTERS: And the proof is in the pudding.

TARLOV: Spell out the rationale. We saw it. We saw the back and forth about why Donald Trump was suspended. Right? It was people having a real debate, people who actually cared about a, inciting a riot, but also making --

WATTERS: This is the hill you want to die on doxxing people?

TARLOV: What?

WATTERS: Come on, you're better than that.

TARLOV: Maybe I'm not.

MARTIN: Can I say one quick thing?

WATTERS: Yes.

MCDOWELL: He walked off an interview with me. That's why he's mad. And he took his mic off and threw it down. And we were taping that interview and I've called him a jerk for years so he could make amends. I'm just --

CAIN: He being Elon.

MCDOWELL: Yes.

WATTERS: How would you like him to make amends?

MCDOWELL: He can come on Fox and do an interview.

WATTERS: OK, there you heard it.

TARLOV: On Dagen's new show.

WATTERS: Dagen's new show.

MCDOWELL: No, he can come on any show.

WATTERS: OK, so "PRIMETIME", got it. Thanks, Dagen.

Up next, crypto freak Sammy mini Madoff is more worried about getting his vegan diet in jail than the customer's cash he ripped off.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAIN: Everybody's commenting on my music. That is the Dutton Ranch Freestyle. Now we talk about crypto creep Sam Bankman-Fried, he's begging for mercy after losing billions of customer's money.

Now, the fraudster's family is reportedly calling the rat-infested Bahamas prison where he's being held and asking if he could get some vegan meals. It's unclear whether or not that request has been granted.

But while all the talk is about Sam, what's going on with his former flame, Caroline Ellison?

Bankman-Fried has blamed her for the collapse of the FTX crypto exchange. She hasn't been charged. So, rumors are swirling that she flipped on her former boyfriend.

And how rich is this? Members of Congress who are supposed to get to the bottom of the fraud, well, they took Sam's dirty money. Bankman-Fried and his FTX cronies pumped in nearly \$95,000 in donations to at least 11 lawmakers who serve on the committee investigating last month's collapse of the FTX crypto exchange.

I hope you don't mind me saying this Sandra, during the commercial break, you said hey, this isn't a made-off thing. This isn't a Ponzi scheme, what is it?

SMITH: I don't really get the comparisons to this being a Ponzi scheme. It really isn't. I mean, a Ponzi scheme is you take -- you know, the first investors in a Ponzi scheme. And you take the new investors and you pay off the original investors and that continues for a long period of time.

This was outright fraud. This was outright theft. There's no reason why authorities shouldn't have caught on to what he was doing earlier.

I also said during the commercial break, if we're going to go there, the SDNY this week, that news conference, we covered it during "AMERICA REPORTS" was flabbergasting. These were -- these prosecutors stood up they're like somehow they discovered this. This case was handed to them on a platter with a bowl. They did not discover this.

And you have to ask yourself, in the wake of all these donations to Democrats, yes, there was some Republicans but mostly to Democrats. You have to look at this. And you have to ask yourself, why is this a market that continues without the regulations that most asset classes have?

They have rules, they have regulations? Why was this exempt from that? And why is this still exempt from that and why do we have to beg for that to happen? This should have never happened. There were red flags all along the way. And now we need to hold accountable all those who turned a blind eye to this because a lot of people have had their livelihood wiped out as a result of this. And the Feds didn't catch this. They're patting themselves on the back this week. That was remarkable.

CAIN: I want a classic Jesse Watters take on why asking for vegan meals in prison is perfectly reasonable.

WATTERS: Reasonable? Well, when you're rich, white, Stanford professor parents call the jail and ask the warden if you can change your meals because you have dietary restrictions, you cannot recover from that. This is not sleep-away camp.

This guy is not in first class where you're like, oh, you know, I'll have the vegan non-tray. No, this guy is in jail, he will be in jail forever. And he needs to get the cashback that he still squirreled away and give it back to these people that he stole money from.

And the girlfriend, it looks like is going to flip and sing. And that's what happens when you have a harem. There's no loyalty.

The Republicans that keep saying, oh, the Republicans got so much money. I'm so sick of hearing that. You could zoom in on this here. See the blue? The blue are the democratic donations, the red are the Republican donations, it is not even close.

And if you add in all of the money that the executives at that firm donated, that's about \$70 million. That's about two Senate seats, the Democrats spent and stole. And I'm going to call that money back from you and Geraldo because that bet is bogus.

Also, if you get dirty money from stolen cash, and then you win an election, you can't just say, I'm just going to give it to charity. Oh, we're going to give it to the Clinton Foundation . You're going to give it to your uncle's charity, who's then just going to donate it back to you next cycle, that is not fair.

SMITH: It should go to a victim fund.

WATTERS: Exactly. And you can't have these kamikazes pump and dump Senates. Like, you can't have guys stealing cash, donating it to Democrats and then dying on the hill. And then just say, I'm just going to give the money to charity, you could do that every single election if you wanted to.

One guy goes to jail and they keep the Senate, not fair. Not fair, Jessica.

TARLOV: So, it didn't steal the Senate.

WATTERS: They still purchased it with fraudulent money.

TARLOV: That's capitalism, baby.

WATTERS: No, it's not.

TARLOV: OK, I thought I would try. So, they should give back the money and I don't think that the charity is good enough. I don't know how -- they're obviously needs to be someone in charge of this who can make sure because a lot of this money was given to huge PACs, right? But then distribute money to various candidates, various issues.

So, I don't know how that works. But yes, just picking a charity, you know, animal cruelty or whatever, doesn't help the people that need this money back.

So, a victim's fund makes complete sense to me when you're in prison, and you have a religious reason for why you need a special meal. That's one thing if this is just a dietary preference, that's not good enough. And there are definitely vegetarian meals that are available. I understand that it might not be you know what you want.

The girlfriend is a very strange piece of this puzzle for sure. I don't know about the harem stuff to it. And I know there were multiple women around but if she is going to flip on him, great. It continues to be one of the craziest stories and just watching all of this unwrap like on CNBC. It's been going wild today with people finally attacking.

SMITH: It's not that complicated. It just ripped a lot of people off. I mean, that's just plain and simple theft.

CAIN: Dagen, is it pretty clear that his girlfriend is singing?

MCDOWELL: Well, yes. Let's talk about CNBC where Jim Cramer referred to FTX as the next JPMorgan , their coverage of crypto and everything about this company. This man has been a nauseating embarrassment.

What did you just asked me?

CAIN: Is it pretty clear that his girlfriend is singing?

MCDOWELL: Yes, she hired Wilmer Hale , she was spotted here in New York City in lower Manhattan at a -- at a coffee bar. He was clearly throwing -- SBF was throwing her under the bus, pointing the finger at her she was running the trading division.

And all along, the trading division was -- the customer money was being used at the trading division.

CAIN: Right.

MCDOWELL: That the money was being funneled over there and he was overseeing it even not when his name wasn't on a CEO. It's going to -- it would make it very easy prosecution of him if she gets on the witness stand. Screw, you know, financial documents and you know, kind of digital information and evidence. Just her testifying against him would really be enough having covered so many of these trials.

To Sandra's point, what went on, certainly, these contributions to all of these Democrats played into this. But the Federal Trade Commission could have regulated this. They regulate literally anything to do with consumer fraud. You can't say that a bucket of paint covers 400 feet and it only covers 200 feet.

The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, Elizabeth Warren, where are you? Because you're only a lot of mouth and no mojo. The Securities Exchange Commission, the Commodity Futures Trade Commission, the Department of Justice, frankly, gambling is more regulated than any of this. And it's all because nobody wanted to stop the trading of these digital beanie babies, everybody was having a blast and making so much money. It's the reason that TikTok has never been regulated. And now everybody in D.C. is woken up to it. Everybody was getting rich.

And the allure of crypto was always and still is largely the fact that get the government out of my money. I hate fiat currency, get -- I want the government's hands off my money.

Well, guess what? This is what happens when the government is not involved in your money. It's just like the 1920s and that did not end well.

CAIN: No, let's hope it doesn't end like that.

MCDOWELL: But it just did with this jackass.

CAIN: With this guy. I hope not for the rest of us.

All right, coming up, the dumbing down of America is almost complete, the latest woke example, to ruin education.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MCDOWELL: The woke are attempting to lower education standards. Again, the university system that oversees six public colleges in Kansas, considering a move to drop algebra from required classes. They claim one out of three students fail the class the first time around, so why have it at all. And this is not the first time education has fallen to the mob. New York University fired an organic chemistry professor after several students complained that his class was just too hard.

And there's an effort to fight back, however. A new truth-seeking University launched last year raised a whopping \$100 million to combat wokeness in higher education. Here's its founding member.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: This is not just a matter of, oh, let's give people an alternative to a broken educational system that help them live better lives. There are larger economic issues in play as well. This is an issue of global competitiveness. This is an issue of how we're going to face China.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MCDOWELL: Jesse, hear them most erudite of those of us at this time.

WATTERS: No, I'm not, but I'll take.

MCDOWELL: You are if I say you are.

WATTERS: No argument from me.

MCDOWELL: What do you -- what do you think of that?

WATTERS: I feel like they lowered all the standards after I was that age.

SMITH: Oh, boy.

WATTERS: So, now, I've missed out on this whole world wave. Like, now, you don't even have to take your SATs to get into school. You don't have to write a college essay. You could just get AI to do it. And you know, I probably could have gotten paid to be a college lacrosse player, because now they have all sorts of like, you know, deals that you can get.

TARLOV: Those parents are in jail.

WATTERS: No, I'm talking about you can get sponsorships now. So, I really missed out and it's not fair. And I could have gotten my loan paid off. But when does lowering standards improve quality? Do you ever see the FDA being like you know what, a lot of this meets not really passing the muster here, let's lower the standards here to get this stuff on the show. Or even in your personal life, whatever -- you ever hear a girl, you know, striking out on the dating scene. I'm not going to improve myself, I'm just going to lower the bar and start dating fat losers. That never ends well. So, instead of just trying to get by, we as a country should try to get better.

MCDOWELL: He has a point in there somewhere, Sandra.

SMITH: Sure.

WATTERS: Somewhere.

MCDOWELL: I'm just stuck on the --

WATTERS: If you look -- if you look really closer, there's a point.

MCDOWELL: No, I'm just stuck on the fat loser thing. It's just -- I'm having flashbacks. The -- but the issue of the disparity between the actual value of the education and the ballooning costs of the education, there's some day of reckoning that has to come because that -- you cannot have that disparity continuing to grow where you get nothing for this ballooning price.

SMITH: Yes, because you know, who is reading and writing and taking their standardized tests? China. And that was the point of University of Austin raising this money to combat wokeness in their -- in the education system. This is an issue of global competitiveness. We have to be really concerned if we are going to lower our values and lower our level of education in this country, because others are just going to pass right by us.

I think that there's real peril on this. I lost my notes here, but they've looked at the average college student in this country now graduating, in some cases, I believe it was like on average with a four-year degree. They've written 20 pages collectively, read maybe 40 or 400. I don't know what the number is. But I mean, we're not reading, we're not writing, we're not testing. There's going to be long term consequences to that if we continue to lower our standards.

CAIN: I'm going to tell you the problem here. The problem is college football. Here's what I mean. I for one, don't care that the standards have been lowered in these woke indoctrination institutions. It's a failed enterprise in my estimation anyway, I agree with you Dagen. There will be a bill that comes due the return on investment for college is no longer there, so we need an alternative, OK. Some combination of trade school, classical learning, travel the world, hangout. Hey, meet your potential wife. But until we cracked the nut of college football, everyone's going to continue to go to these indoctrination factories, and I'm dead serious about this.

There's a reason these coaches make \$10 million a year. It's because the biggest advertising campaign every one of these colleges have going for them. I can talk about it, you can talk about it, my friends can all recognize that college is a poor investment. But until they have something where they can hang out on Saturdays and meet their potential wives, they're going to keep going to the University of Kansas and they're going to enjoy those poor algebra scores.

MCDOWELL: But Jess, the worst schools though -- and I know where you went to undergraduate college are like the small liberal arts schools in terms --

TARLOV: In terms of wokeness you mean.

MCDOWELL: Yes, in terms of wokeness and giving you degrees. And people mock me because I got an art history degree. Well, Wake Forest was \$7,500 a year when I went scroll there, and now it's 10 times that.

WATTERS: You're a vegan and you have a degree in art history?

MCDOWELL: No, I ate eggs yesterday, so I ditched the vegan thing. I'm worried about -- I'm worried about osteoporosis and getting a (INAUDIBLE). But those -- but those schools, that doesn't apply, those don't have big football programs. The ones that where you're getting a degree in something --

CAIN: I think those schools don't matter.

MCDOWELL: But continue.

TARLOV: I'm sitting right here so -- I've never been into this. I mean, I took -- working hard and my grades and I went to a very competitive school here in the city. And I had to do super well to get into the schools that I got into. And I think that if you're going to do things like practice law -- we talked about it with some schools saying that they want to drop the LSAT. Obviously, medical school is never going to drop some the MCAT or some regulation for that because obviously, you can't have people heading into an operating room who don't understand the basics.

CAIN: Are you sure about that?

TARLOV: I'm pretty sure about that. But I hate this. And I think that you can have a very thoughtful conversation about how standardized tests favor people who can hire tutors. That's something that I grew up around, right? There were a lot of kids who'd go in and you take the PSAT, and depending on how well or bad it went, then kids with a lot of money would suddenly walk out of the SATs and they suddenly had a 1600, but they had gotten an 1100 when they had taken it at the beginning. And that's because they could afford people that, you know, thousands of dollars an hour of tutoring, and that isn't fair.

So, I do think we should be looking at a broader spectrum of criteria. But I don't like this. Not everyone needs a core curriculum right where you need the classics. You don't need to know Latin, but I think you need to know basic algebra, probably.

MCDOWELL: I'll tell you why you need to know the Pythagorean theorem. Even -- you need to know the Pythagorean theorem if you're going to build a shed for your lawnmower. You need to know $A^2 + B^2 = C^2$ if you're just going to build a basic shed. My daddy taught me that when I was four years old.

CAIN: He taught you the Pythagorean theorem?

MCDOWELL: Yes.

CAIN: At four?

MCDOWELL: Yes.

Straight ahead, insane video of a fighter pilots brush with death. Dramatic video in "THE FASTEST.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

TARLOV: Welcome back. It's time for "THE FASTEST." First up -- welcome, Sandra. OK, this isn't a scene out of Top Gun. Dramatic video captures the moment a pilot escaped death or serious injury, ejecting from a fighter jet during a failed landing at a military base in Texas. Isn't that crazy? That's what -- Sandra, you react to it.

SMITH: So, I saw this when it first happened, and I watched it like four times because it's pretty remarkable to see a pilot eject from a plane like that.

CAIN: While it's on the ground.

SMITH: No.

TARLOV: No, he objected prior to that.

MCDOWELL: That point was --

WATTERS: Oh.

SMITH: Oh, yes, yes, yes.

WATTERS: You don't watch it four times, you liar.

SMITH: Sorry. No, I did watch it, but I watched him -- his flight go down four times. It's amazing.

MCDOWELL: I -- what I'm going to say was -- I should just shut up because I don't fly jets. But this ejection seems more risky because the plane was on the ground.

CAIN: I agree. I have no reason to know but I'm going to feel confident in agreeing with you. That seems dangerous. Like, because you don't have time for the shoot to open.

MCDOWELL: Yes.

CAIN: By the way, that's an F-35. We spent a lot of money on those planes.

WATTERS: And it crashed. Good job, Obama. I think we should --

TARLOV: What?

WATTERS: -- have ejector seats in regular passenger vehicles because on long car rides with the twins, one button, boom.

CAIN: You would have --

WATTERS: To the moon.

CAIN: You would have --

WATTERS: Threaten them. They better not touch my ejector button.

TARLOV: OK, up next, the latest social media craze has Gen Zers trying to explain their confusing slang to older coworkers.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Number two, bet.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Excuse me?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Bet.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Bet?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Yes.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Like, placing a bet.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: No, like, cool, I'm down. Like, OK, bet.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: You bet.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Moving on.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

TARLOV: So, let's get a crash course. No cap means something that is an absolute truth.

CAIN: You're just going to tell us or should we guess?

TARLOV: I'm going to finish reading, I'll explain this, and then we'll talk about it. Same as the first time, Sandra. Bussin means something is very good or great. And sus is short for suspicious. That makes sense to me.

SMITH: I use sus all the time.

TARLOV: You do?

SMITH: That's been around a while.

TARLOV: Really?

SMITH: Yes.

TARLOV: Oh, more Gen Z than millennials, Sandra.

SMITH: OK.

TARLOV: Any of those makes sense to you, Will?

CAIN: I knew them all. Yes.

SMITH: See.

TARLOV: Because you read the packet?

CAIN: I wanted you -- I wanted you to run a quiz and I was going to ace the quiz but you want to read them all and be the know it all.

MCDOWELL: You just want to be the winner every time, Will. I don't use slang because nobody can understand what I'm saying anyway.

TARLOV: Fair. Jesse?

WATTERS: Yes, I knew sus, bussin and bet, but I did not know no cap.

CAIN: You didn't know no cap?

WATTERS: No cap. I did not know no cap.

CAIN: Bussin is I think -- of those, bussin would be the leading edge.

SMITH: What?

CAIN: Like, you will be on trend the most with that one. Cap -- no cap, I never (INAUDIBLE)

WATTERS: I'm getting lectured on slang by a guy older than I am.

CAIN: He just -- he just found that out.

WATTERS: I did.

TARLOV: Just Gen Z kid stuff. And finally --

CAIN: I don't think so.

TARLOV: Yes.

MCDOWELL: I've got to word for it quick. Tight. Tight means drunk. Tight means drunk. It's an old word from like, prohibition.

CAIN: When we were kids, tight meant cool.

MCDOWELL: Tight means drunk. Anyway, go ahead.

TARLOV: OK. We're just going to tease. Let's get out of here.

OK, stick around. This is the tease. The holiday office party is back and better than ever. Our tips on how to behave yourself.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

WATTERS: Bing Crosby.

SMITH: Rosemary Clooney.

WATTERS: That was my second guess.

SMITH: The office holiday parties are back, but after a two-year hiatus from the pandemic, people may be a bit rusty on how to behave. Here's a tip. Don't be Dwight from The Office.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Enough of this garbage. This is Christmas.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SMITH: Carol of the Bells. OK, But seriously, experts suggest you not talk politics or only about work. That's not a good idea. And to make sure to skip that extra drink. Jesse, do you have any tips? What do you think is the biggest rule at an office party?

WATTERS: You learn a lot about someone at an office Christmas party. And oftentimes this is the first moment where you've gotten drunk around your co-workers at all. Let's say you get hired in February, well, you're lighting it up at the Christmas party. So, I would just make sure to not be the drunkest. You can be the second drunkest --

CAIN: Oh, that's a good advice.

WATTERS: But you don't want to be drunkest.

CAIN: That's really good advice. No one talks about the second drunkest.

WATTERS: No. They fly through the radar.

CAIN: They don't show up at the office and go, did you see so and so, he was the seconds drunkest dude there.

WATTERS: No, you're good.

CAIN: They only talk about the drunkest.

WATTERS: And then you can even point at the drunkest and say, look at this guy.

SMITH: You know what? I --

MCDOWELL: It's so dangerous because there's some people who are great drunks.

TARLOV: Yes.

TARLOV: Right.

MCDOWELL: And or bad drunks, and you're much drunker than everybody else, but you don't think you're as drunk and it's just a disaster.

SMITH: Yes, that just could be a mess.

MCDOWELL: Did that make any sense?

WATTERS: You want to be tight, right?

SMITH: But do you know what is -- do you know what's fantastic, though -- and I think everybody is probably pretty happy after the pandemic to hear this. 57 percent of companies are having some sort of in-person holiday celebration this year.

TARLOV: Yes.

SMITH: And I think more and more people, the more I talk around the office here, there's been a lot this year. That's good.

TARLOV: It's been fabulous.

WATTERS: Take that, Fauci. I'm sorry. Go ahead.

TARLOV: I think he's fine with it within reason, wear your masks or whatever.

WATTERS: Oh, stop.

TARLOV: I said or whatever. So, we had a Christmas party here, and we had one for THE FIVE too. And it was -- it was fabulous. I mean, people especially like teams that have been working together a long time and then had the pandemic and they were split up, right? And they used to be people that they would hang out with all the time. It was just -- it was awesome. But I do think you can drink. I think you should be a little loose to your like, more fun than you might be naturally, but not obviously too drunk. But I talk about politics all the time at office parties.

SMITH: Oh, OK. So, Will, is there anything off-limits at holiday parties?

CAIN: Yes, I'm sure there are some things that are off-limits. That was a big open question.

WATTERS: Not for Will though.

CAIN: I do think the more you, you know, get to the edge of the line, the better the party. And you need to deepen your relationships, you know.

WATTERS: Professionally.

SMITH: That's good.

CAIN: Yes, right. Thank you, Jesse. Conversationally.

WATTERS: Right.

CAIN: Conversationally, deepen your relationship.

MCDOWELL: Work parties are work, period.

TARLOV: Really?

MCDOWELL: Yes.

SMITH: Dagen --

MCDOWELL: And if anybody needs tips from me about anything, you better just not leave your house.

SMITH: Are you wild? What are you suggesting?

MCDOWELL: No, I just don't go.

SMITH: Oh, OK.

MCDOWELL: I just stay at home.

SMITH: I think a big question too --

MCDOWELL: I get -- like, I just end up hiding in the bathroom.

SMITH: Oh.

CAIN: During the party?

MCDOWELL: Yes. I don't -- like, I'm super uncomfortable. Like, I don't make small talk. I'm bad at chit chat. I might -- like, I'm like talking to the bartender.

WATTERS: You like -

SMITH: Oh.

WATTERS: That sounds like a lot of fun, Dagen.

SMITH: That sounds awkward. OK.

MCDOWELL: I am awkward.

SMITH: OK, it sounds fun. Merry Christmas! "ONE MORE THING" is up next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

WATTERS: It's time now for "ONE MORE THING." Sometimes Mother Nature reminds you who's in charge.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

(END VIDEO CLIP)

WATTERS: Do not test Mother Nature. It's sure win every time and it is a shake. Tonight, on "JESSE WATTERS PRIMETIME," the worst school district in America. We found it. Jessica?

TARLOV: OK, winter is coming. And this police K9 from the Essex Police Department in Vermont is doing her part to earn her keep. Her name is Nova. And she clearly has taken to snow shoveling even though the shovel may come back with a few bite marks. Nova has been with the force since July 2020. In response to the viral video, Essex police joke that Nova is excited to announce her new job with public works.

SMITH: He's pretty good.

TARLOV: Yes.

WATTERS: He's shovel ready job right there.

SMITH: Well done.

WATTERS: Dagen.

MCDOWELL: I'll keep it short. Starting on January 23, Sean Duffy and I have a show.

SMITH: Yes.

WATTERS: Yes, Dagen.

TARLOV: And Elon Musk is your first guest, right?

MCDOWELL: Huh?

TARLOV: Elon Musk is your first guest?

MCDOWELL: Oh, no. I'm sure he's -- well, no.

TARLOV: I heard --

MCDOWELL: You know, a girl can dream.

CAIN: January 23, 6:00 p.m.

MCDOWELL: Thank you, sir.

CAIN: Fox Business.

WATTERS: Elon Musk might be your first guest.

CAIN: The Bottom Line.

MCDOWELL: Yes.

TARLOV: Tune in to see.

MCDOWELL: I need -- I need Jesse's promotional skill.

WATTERS: There you go. I'm very excited.

WATTERS: Congratulations, Dagen.

TARLOV: And you'll keep normal hours now.

MCDOWELL: Yes.

TARLOV: Like, no more waking up at 3:00 in the morning.

MCDOWELL: 2:30 wake-up call for 13 years in a row.

CAIN: And that's over? That's a reason to go out to an office party.

WATTERS: And not hide in the bathroom.

CAIN: Right there.

MCDOWELL: Yes.

WATTERS: No more hiding in the bathroom, Dagen. You've made it.

MCDOWELL: No I hide -- I'm a good hider too. Like, I put my feet on the toilet seat so people can't find me.

WATTERS: That is good. And --

CAIN: You sit up on the -- you sit up on the back of the toilet.

WATTERS: Graphic image.

MCDOWELL: Yes, and play Candy Crush.

SMITH: OK, Jesse, it was so kind of you. Earlier this week, we do a segment on Fridays it's called Off Script. We do this for "AMERICA REPORTS." And we had so much fun. I went off-script with the cast of THE FIVE earlier this week. And here's a little bit what we learned.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SMITH: We're going to go off script with the cast of THE FIVE today. By 5:00, you guys have a lot of the news of the day.

WATTERS: If you look here, there are no notes in front of me here.

SMITH: Yes.

WATTERS: Everyone else is very prepared.

HAROLD FORD JR. FOX NEWS CHANNEL CONTRIBUTOR: It shows, Jesse.

DANA PERINO, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Yes.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SMITH: You know, Jesse, I -- we played this out on our show today. And I thought about it. There's no way. You definitely prepare.

WATTERS: Just not for that show. That shows very unprepared. But the unprepared shows are sometimes the best. And Will Cain knows what I'm talking about.

SMITH: I loved it. Thanks so much for that. It was cool to see how you guys --

WATTERS: That was fun in there with you. Gutfeld was a little ornery, but that's not surprising.

CAIN: A little behind-the-scenes look at Jesse Watters.

SMITH: Yes.

CAIN: Who doesn't love that?

SMITH: It's good.

CAIN: Here's two things that I do not love, running in freezing cold temperatures. Let me introduce you to the Antarctic ice marathon. 20 competitors from across -- 60 competitors, 20 nations across the globe. So, the winner is Sean Tobin. He's from Ireland.

WATTERS: Ireland?

CAIN: And he ran the whole thing in two hours and 53 minutes -- which by the way, they said there's like knee-high snow in some of this.

SMITH: Wow.

CAIN: So, you're trudging. That's fast.

WATTERS: Wow. I did not see Ireland winning that. But good for Ireland. I mean, you got to -- they got to do something, right?

All right, that's it for us. See you Monday. Have a great weekend.

END

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SE News; Domestic

HD Documents Reveal FBI Contacts With Twitter Company Officials; Title 42 Termination Approaches Amid Calls For Solution; **Sam Bankman-Fried** Relatives Under Internal Investigation; Extension Of Special Immigrant VISA Program Stripped; Biden Touts New Law Giving Veterans More Help; Club Denies Satanism On Students; After-School Satan Club Draws Criticism From Parents; D.C. Charity Recovers From Early Lack Of Toy Donations For Children During Christmas; Winter Storms May Impact Holiday Travel In U.S.; Twitter CEO Elon Musk Continues Releasing Information About Previous Twitter Practices, Including FBI Monitoring; Former President Trump Announces Sale Of Digital Trading Card NFTs; Five Republicans Reportedly Hold Out Against Voting For Kevin McCarthy To Become Speaker Of Next Congress

BY Bret Baier, Kelly O'Grady, Peter Doocy, David Spunt, Shannon Bream, Jennifer Griffin, Lucas Tomlinson, Lucas Tomlinson, Alexandria Hoff, Kendall Smith

WC 8,158 words

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SN Fox News: Special Report with Brett Baier

SC FNSPBB

LA English

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LP

WILL CAIN, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: He's from Ireland.

JESSE WATTERS, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Ireland?

TD

CAIN: And he ran the whole thing in two hours and 53 minutes which by the way they said there's like knee high snow and some of this.

SANDRA SMITH, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Wow.

CAIN: So, you're trudging. That's fast.

WATTERS: Well, I did not see Ireland winning that but good for Ireland. I mean, you got to -- they got to do something, right?

All right. That's it for us. See you Monday. Have a great weekend.

BRET BAIER, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Good evening, welcome to Washington. I'm Bret Baier.

Breaking tonight, a new round of internal records from Twitter , Twitter files part six. They detail what appears to be very close and extensive cooperation between the social media site and the FBI .

The company under new ownership of Elon Musk is posting that information again this evening through another journalist. Correspondent David Spunt is with us tonight with the latest. Good evening, David.

DAVID SPUNT, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Hi, Bret. Good evening. These came out just a couple of hours ago. They seem to be dumping out every few days. As you mentioned part six of the Twitter files released late this afternoon. It was a series of 44 tweets. And it's clear that independent journalist Matt Taibbi with the blessing of Elon Musk is painting a narrative of a cozy relationship between Twitter and the FBI . Let's take a look.

And to be clear, this is reporting for Matt Taibbi, an information that he's presenting. So, between January 2020 and November 2022, there were over 150 e-mails between the FBI and former Twitter Trust and Safety Chief with Yoel Roth .

The FBI social media focused task force known as FTIF, created in the wake of the 2016 election swelled Bret to 80 agents and corresponded with Twitter to identify alleged foreign influence and election tampering of all kinds.

Now, federal intelligence and law enforcement reach into Twitter included the Department of Homeland Security, which partnered with security contractors and think tanks to pressure Twitter to moderate content.

In an internal e-mail from November 5th, 2022 just last month. The FBI's national election command posts, which compiles and sends on complaints sent the San Francisco FBI field office a long list of accounts that "may warrant additional action". One of those names Bret, actor Billy Baldwin, Alec Baldwin's brother.

Matt Taibbi also posted an e-mail from November 10th of this year, reportedly from the FBI notifying Twitter employees that four of the accounts may violate Twitter's Terms of Service, highlighting yet another level of FBI involvement.

Another name that came up once again in these Twitter files James Baker, we've talked about him before, he's a former FBI General Counsel, who was then hired at Twitter after leaving the FBI.

Not unusual but he is mentioned and helps connect people from both agencies as we are seeing here, Bret. Now, Yoel Roth, another name that has come up multiple times. He left the company last month, had tremendous influence and power as the head of Twitter trust and safety meeting. He was one of the top people deciding exactly who to ban over the past few years. Prior Twitter files indicated that Roth met with the FBI multiple times.

Bret, today's release comes after Elon Musk himself suspended a handful of well-known journalists who covered his Twitter takeover. Musk offered little reason but he also permanently suspended the account of a college student who used publicly available information to track his private plane. Musk said it was "inappropriate".

Fox has reached out to the FBI for comment on the allegations from Taibbi, we have not yet heard back. Elon Musk tweeted just a few hours before this latest Twitter dump that soon ladies and gentlemen we may be coming to the end. He said the coup de gras, translated essentially to the grand finale, perhaps signaling Bret this may be the last dump of these Twitter files, but with Elon Musk nobody knows and we'll see.

BAIER: Yes, we'll follow at all. David, thank you.

SPUNT: You're welcome.

BAIER: More on this with the panel.

Breaking tonight, we're just five days remaining before the end of the pandemic related asylum restrictions along the southern border. Both Republicans and Democrats are calling for some concrete solutions from President Biden. His spokeswoman insists he is taking the situation very seriously.

If the president does have a plan, he's keeping the details to himself at least in public.

White House Correspondent Peter Doocy has the story tonight live from the North Lawn. Good evening, Peter.

PETER DOOCY, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Good evening, Bret. This is not one of those decisions this president can just keep pushing off like whether or not to run for reelection.

President Biden has to make a decision about what immigration policy will replace Title 42. By the time the law changes on Wednesday.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

DOOCY (voice over): President Biden not talking Title 42. His top diplomat not talking Title 42 either.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: What are you going to do about migrants after Title 42?

DOOCY: This Fox News video from El Paso shows more than a thousand migrants who crossed into the U.S. illegally with nowhere to go, camping in the streets as tens of thousands more playing to taking advantage of potential rule changes.

REP. TONY GONZALES (R-TX): I got reports that from Border Patrol agents, they're telling me there's over 50,000 migrants on the other side of the border just staging waiting for Title 42 to expire.

DOOCY: 30,000 have already made their way to New York City and Mayor Eric Adams says he needs a billion dollars or else.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Mr. Mayor, how bad could the city's budget crisis get if you do not receive assistance for the migrant crisis?

ERIC ADAMS (D), MAYOR OF NEW YORK CITY: This city is bad, it's bad.

DOOCY: White House officials claimed they aren't caught flat footed by the Title 42 deadline.

JOHN KIRBY, PRESS SECRETARY, PENTAGON: We expect the expiration. We're making plans for how we're going to continue to be able to deal with immigration in an efficient, effective and humane way going forward.

DOOCY: Republicans say wrong approach.

SEN. TOM COTTON (R-AR): They are not telling people to go home. They're not telling people not to come in the first place. They are simply trying to get them across the border and away from the cameras on our border and enter our country as quickly as possible.

DOOCY: Border town officials are taking issue with the Biden administration to particularly this plane (PH).

KARINE JEAN-PIERRE , WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY: The president has done -- has done the work to deal with what we're seeing at the border since day one.

CLAUDIA RODRIGUEZ, EL PASO, TEXAS CITY COUNCIL: That is insulting. There's no work being done here. We haven't been given money. We have been promised money. We have been using money from our general fund. There is nothing being done here in El Paso.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

DOOCY (on camera): Officials here are leaving officials in border towns hanging. They know more migrants are on the way, they just don't know which ones are going to be sent home. Which ones are going to be told they can stay or who will pay for any of that, Bret.

BAIER: Peter Doocy live on the North Lawn. Peter, thanks.

Let's bring in Fox News Chief Legal Correspondent anchor of "FOX NEWS SUNDAY" Shannon Bream. Good evening, Shannon.

SHANNON BREAM, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Good to see you, Bret.

BAIER: You know, this obviously is coming to a head, we're only days away from Title 42 being pulled away. It's now clear that Democrats and Republicans and I should say Republicans and Democrats are making this a big issue on Capitol Hill.

BREAM: They are and beyond because when you have somebody like California Governor Gavin Newsom , going to the border and saying, listen, we are tapped out, our state can only handle so much and pointing the finger back at the White House saying we've made it very clear to the Biden administration that we need their help and we need their money.

Eric Adams up in New York, there are Democrats who now it's creating real world problems for them and their jurisdictions. And they're now all pointing back to the White House.

BAIER: The question is whether they have any action that they can take over the next few days.

BREAM: Yes, that's the question. There are Democrats as well pressing on the administration not to lift Title 42. I mean, it's going to lift on Wednesday and some other action, an executive action potentially by the White House.

So, when you have Senators Tester and Manchin out there saying, listen, we've told the White House, if you don't have a plan, don't do it. These places are not ready. And you're hearing that from Democrats and Republicans alike along the borders.

BAIER: And you have a Democrat and Republican on the border.

BREAM: You do. We've got Democrat Congresswoman Veronica Escobar , we've got Republican Congressman Chip Roy both in Texas. Both admit there is a huge problem here. They don't agree on how you get to the solution. So, we're going to see if we can find any common grounds.

BAIER: Let's talk about this latest Twitter files released from Matt Taibbi and, you know, we've seen increasingly more of these e-mails, internal e-mails from Twitter, suggesting there was really a very close relationship with the administration, with the FBI and Twitter.

Here's one from Taibbi saying, Twitter's contact with the FBI was constant and pervasive as if it were a subsidiary. They were essentially saying which specific accounts they had a problem with and Twitter was acting.

BREAM: And that becomes potentially a legal problem for a lot of people involved in this thing. If you can show that a private entity is acting on behalf of government direction or essentially becoming a government or state actor in itself because its private conduct is so motivated and impressed and directed by a government entity, that's when you run into potential legal trouble.

You know, we think about First Amendment violations, if somebody whose name pops up and says, look, I was shadow banned, or I was taken down at the direction of the FBI via Twitter, it opens up new potential causes of action.

BAIER: David said that we reached out to the FBI just seconds ago as you were talking, they put out a statement, saying the FBI regularly engages with private sector entities to provide information specific to identified foreign malign, influence actors, subversive undeclared covert or criminal activities. Private sector entities independently make decisions about what if any action they take on their platforms and for their customers after the FBI has notified them. I guess it's just the level of interaction that is raising some alarm bells.

Secondly, the coverage of all this, there's not a lot of coverage of the substance of the Twitter files. But today when different accounts are suspended because of Elon Musk says that they have been putting out doxing or tracking people, the world seemed to stop.

BREAM: They're paying attention now.

And you know, some people are saying like, OK, now you understand what people who -- if we're not going to use the word shadow banning but their visibility filter was set down or they couldn't trend those kinds of things. There's a lot of discussion here because Elon did say this is going to be an open forum. I'm not going to censor speech.

When he says in this case, it's a doxing issue. That's something -- listen, to his credit, he hopped on that phone call with these reporters to at least have a one on one conversation with them about exactly what he was doing.

BAIER: We will follow it all. We'll see you on "FOX NEWS SUNDAY". Thanks, Shannon.

There is growing speculation tonight about who might be the next person to face criminal charges in the scandal surrounding the collapse of cryptocurrency firm FTX. The company's founder is sitting in a Bahamian jail this evening awaiting possible extradition to the U.S.

Fox Business Correspondent Kelly O'Grady has the latest from Los Angeles.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

KELLY O'GRADY, FOX BUSINESS NETWORK CORRESPONDENT (voice over): Legal trouble may soon be coming for others caught up in the FTX collapse. Attention now turning to the disgraced founder's parents, lawmakers in new FTX management sharing the Stanford law professors were heavily involved in company operations.

Joseph Bankman even frequently accompanying his son Sam Bankman-Fried to Capitol Hill meetings. While the extent of his mother's engagement is unclear, the new FTX CEO shared he is investigating both parents.

JOHN RAY, CEO, FTX: We're investigating their -- as well as any other, you know, players we indicated that the Mr. Bankman had given legal advice.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: OK, had he been an employee of FTX? Has it been reported?

RAY: You know, I don't know if he actually had an employee status. He certainly received payments from -- the family did receive payments.

O'GRADY: Then there's Bankman-Fried's rumored ex-girlfriend Caroline Ellison. She ran his hedge fund Alameda research, which federal prosecutors allege had access to \$8 billion in FTX customer funds that are now missing.

The former CEO's inner circle is also under scrutiny but at least one turned. Court documents show Bankman-Fried's former co-CEO Ryan Salame shared a tip with Bahamian officials two days before the November bankruptcy filing.

Salame revealed client funds were transferred to Alameda, and that only the three founders had the passwords to do so. He further shared "that such transfers were not allowed and therefore may constitute misappropriation, theft, fraud or some other crime".

(END VIDEOTAPE)

O'GRADY: And the criminal charges against Bankman-Fried repeatedly referenced others and the number of the charges would necessitate co-conspirators so we can likely expect more names to be drawn in soon. Back to you, Bret

BAIER: Kelly, thank you. Ongoing recession fears sent markets down again today. The Dow lost 282, the S&P 500 was down 43. The NASDAQ dropped 105.

For the week, the Dow was down 1-2/3 percentage points. The S&P 500 fell two, the NASDAQ was off 2-3/4.

Up next, are the Biden administration and Congress turning their backs on Afghans who assisted U.S. troops during the war? We'll bring you that story.

First, here's what some of our Fox affiliates around the country are covering tonight. Fox 9 in Boise, Idaho as we learned investigators traveled at least 24 miles to the east of Moscow, Idaho to acquire surveillance video in relation to the quadruple homicide of four University of Idaho students. Employees at stores of Troy and Kendrick say authorities have asked for video from their property.

Fox 4 in Dallas as an F-35 jet from Lockheed Martin crashes during a test flight. It happened Thursday at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base in Fort Worth. Video shows the plane hovering before bouncing on the runway. The jet then goes into a nose first into the ground sending smoke into the air. The pilot as you see ejected safely. No word on the pilot's condition however.

And this is a live look at Cape Canaveral from Fox 35. One of the big stories there tonight, SpaceX plans launches from both coasts. A satellite designed to measure water heights and lakes and oceans went up early this morning from California.

A short time ago, the company launched another batch of broadband internet satellites from Cape Canaveral in Florida.

That's tonight's live look outside the Beltway from SPECIAL REPORT, we'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BAIER: Ukraine's capital came under one of the biggest attacks of the war today. Officials say Russia fired dozens of missiles across the country.

Strikes were reported in at least four cities, triggering widespread emergency power outages.

The head of the Ukrainian Armed Forces says his troops intercepted 60 of the 76 missiles launched.

Basketball star Brittney Griner is thanking President Biden and everyone else who helped secure her release from a Russian prison. She was freed in exchange for a notorious Russian arms dealer, in an agreement that brought heavy criticism for the administration.

Griner says she will use her platform to help the president bring Paul Whelan and other detainees -- detained Americans home.

Tonight, we continue our reporting on the difficulty for 1000s of Afghan interpreters and soldiers who served alongside American troops in their efforts to gain U.S. citizenship.

This evening, why a program specifically designed to grant visas for such individuals is now in peril?

Here is chief national security correspondent Jennifer Griffin.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

JENNIFER GRIFFIN, FOX NEWS CHANNEL NATIONAL SECURITY CORRESPONDENT (voice over): Stripped from the massive Pentagon funding bill at the request of Senator Chuck Grassley, an extension of the Special Immigrant Visa program that gave Afghan allies a path to citizenship, which expires in a year.

Leading Republicans are also blocking the separate Afghan Adjustment Act, which would expedite the asylum process for 10s of 1000s of Afghans brought to the U.S. over a year ago, because they say they do not want to pass any immigration legislation before Republicans take over the House.

SCOTT MANN, FOUNDER, TASK FORCE PINEAPPLE: A lot of the politician, they just don't get is the -- is the level of connection that exists between these junior officers, and these NCOs, and their partner.

You could just, all of a sudden, be told it's over. There's nothing you can do for them, let it go. That in itself is a moral injury of just huge magnitude.

GRIFFIN: Veterans groups have angrily pushed back on lawmakers who have held up the asylum process, arguing that those brought to the U.S. during the withdrawal were not vetted.

BEN OWEN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, FLANDERS FIELDS: Yet, a huge population of 10s of 1000s of Afghans that have already demonstrated their allegiance to America.

And we're railroading them.

GRIFFIN: Ben Owen, an Army veteran who started Flanders Fields to house U.S. vets and fund safe houses for Afghan partners left behind, was referring to the 14,000 Afghans who have been approved for SIV visas and are waiting in Kabul, with 60,000 more Afghans who can show they worked with the U.S. government left in limbo. As well as 80,000 plus humanitarian parolees, who were given temporary asylum.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

GRIFFIN: A bipartisan group of lawmakers are trying to get the Afghan Adjustment Act, which fast tracks those brought to the U.S. on humanitarian parole during the withdrawal, included in the omnibus spending bill.

But some leading Republicans are blocking it until the new Congress. Bret.

BAIER: Jennifer Griffin at the Pentagon. Jennifer, thank you.

President Biden is touting legislation he signed in August, expanding health care benefits for veterans injured by exposure to toxic burn pits.

The president speaking today at a town hall event in Delaware.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOE BIDEN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: We only have one sacred obligation: obligations of the old and the young to educate to take care. But only one sacred obligation. It's to prepare those we send to war and care for them and their families when they come home from war.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: One of many events around the country -- around the toxic burn pit issue.

Up next, the uproar over an after school club about Satan. First, "BEYOND OUR BORDERS" tonight.

Three people are hospitalized in critical condition after hundreds of fans forced away into a London concert venue for a performance by Nigerian afrobeat star, Asake.

The singer posted a message, saying he is praying for those injured.

An upstate New York College student missing in France since last month is alive in Spain. 21-year-old Kenneth DeLand was studying abroad in Grenoble when he disappeared.

A French prosecutor confirms the students spoke with his parents this morning.

And this is a live look at Berlin. One of the stories there tonight. A huge aquarium bursts in Berlin, spilling debris, water and hundreds of tropical fish out of what is described as the biggest cylindrical tank in the world.

Two fire service workers were slightly hurt. The mayor says the fact the incident happened at 6:00 in the morning prevented far more injuries.

Just some of the other stories, "BEYOND OUR BORDERS" tonight. We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BAIER: Many parents in Chesapeake, Virginia are mad as heck over an after school program dedicated to Satan.

School officials say the club has a right to exist. Lucas Tomlinson has our story.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: The day the Lord is approaching --

LUCAS TOMLINSON, FOX NEWS CHANNEL PENTAGON CORRESPONDENT (voice over): Parents in southeast Virginia voicing outrage over a proposal to add an After School Satan Club to a local public elementary school that teaches pre-K through second grade.

The national director for the Satan Club defended the idea.

JUNE EVERETT, DIRECTOR, AFTER SCHOOL SATAN CLUB: We don't try to indoctrinate them into Satanism. We just want to offer a place that's you know, fun, you know, exciting, free from any sort of threats of eternal damnation.

What they don't realize is their child doesn't have to go.

TOMLINSON: The group follows seven fundamental tenants, including benevolence and empathy, critical thinking, problem solving, creative expression, and personal sovereignty.

But some parents aren't buying it.

ASPEN NOLETTE, FOUNDER, CHESAPEAKE PARENTS FOR FREEDOM: More than forced masking, more than pornographic materials in our public school libraries. This was truly when parents showed up.

TOMLINSON: This week, dozens of parents packed into a school board meeting hoping to stop the group for moving in.

NOLETTE: Children look to the adults in the room to protect them.

TOMLINSON: The Supreme Court ruled in 2001 that a school district cannot prohibit First Amendment free-speech rights of groups seeking access to school facilities.

LUCIEN GREAVES, THE SATANIC TEMPLE: You need to ask yourself if your distaste over us identifying as satanists is strong enough that you would abandon the principles of free speech and religious liberty.

TOMLINSON: To date, Everett says the after-school Satan Club is in six schools nationwide.

NOLETTE: It's a frightening ideology. It's the responsibility of the adults in the room to stand up and speak up.

(END VIDEO TAPE)

TOMLINSON: A few parents have voiced support for that after-school Satan Club, saying it's an opportunity to teach inclusivity, Bret.

BAIER: Debate club, chess club, not sure about the Satan Club.

TOMLINSON: I don't think they will singing Christmas carols.

BAIER: That's right. Lucas, thank you.

Skyrocketing inflation may have forced some changes to your family's plans for Christmas, but it is a disaster for many charities and the individuals they try to help. Correspondent Alexandria Hoff takes a look tonight from inside the Central Mission Warehouse here in Washington.

(BEGIN VIDEO TAPE)

ALEXANDRIA HOFF, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Operation Christmas Miracle, that's the name of the annual toy collection program for D.C.'s Central Union Mission. In years past, Washington's oldest private social service agency served up to 1,400 kids with holiday gifts. But this week, organizers had to

face the fact that they had come up painfully short, sharing in this photo what their toy collection warehouse looked like this year compared with last.

JOSEPH METTIMANO, CENTRAL UNION MISSION PRESIDENT: I don't believe people have lost Christmas spirit nor their interest in supporting the mission and kids from impoverished families. I think it just reflects the reality that everybody has these days with things being tighter.

HOFF: Mettimano says that inflation has impacted the community's ability to donate and has lengthened the list of families signing up to receive.

METTIMANO: With the state of the economy, families are struggling even more, not only to provide basics to put food on the table and pay the electric bill and the rent, but trying to give their kids a decent Christmas.

HOFF: It has been the theme across the U.S. for charitable giving this holiday season, with both the Salvation Army and the Marine Corps' Toys for Tots issuing urgent calls for donations and volunteers.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: As you can see, we are desperately empty.

HOFF: D.C.'s Central Union Mission took to social media, noting on Wednesday that half of the 1,000 kids who had signed up for Christmas gifts still had yet to be sponsored. It was a call to action, and the community responded in a big way. In just two days, a room that was largely empty has filled.

(END VIDEO TAPE)

HOFF (on camera): There are still about 150 kids with wish lists that have yet to be sponsored. If you would like to help out, you can head to MissionDC.org. Toy distribution begins tomorrow, Bret.

BAIER: We'll have that on the website as well. Alex, thank you.

Workers at dozens of Starbucks stores around the country are on a three-day strike tonight. It's the longest walk out in the year-old unionization effort. Last month, employees at 110 stores held a one-day strike. Workers want more staffing, better management, and the right to join a union. The company says it functions better when it works directly with employees.

A strong winter storm impacting the interior northeast tonight, but there may be even more significant weather just as holiday travel gears up next week. Meteorologist Kendall Smith of FOX Weather has the story from New York tonight. Good evening, Kendall.

KENDALL SMITH, METEOROLOGIST: Good evening, Bret. And yes, a lot is going on tonight and will continue doing so through this weekend, but the main weather story is that Christmas week storm that we are tracking.

But first, let's get to locations in the northeast. We are watching an area of low pressure that's working its way northward, bringing a wintery mess. Right along the I-95 corridor we are dealing with rounds of moderate to heavy rain, so the rain continues to fall in places like Boston. But notice where that rain-snow line has set up shop, places like Albany, over to Vermont, New Hampshire, and into Maine, we have just been getting socked with lots and lots of heavy snow today. A lot of locations have already picked up over a foot of snow, with an additional but still to come. So that is going to lead to some travel concerns this weekend. Be advised.

And speaking of travel concerns, we are tracking this significant storm system that is going to be taking shape, unfortunately, right in time for when so many of you are going to be headed home for the Christmas holiday. So what we are tracking is an arctic air mass that is going to be diving southward with an associated cold front. We are going to be dealing with seriously cold temperatures dropping across the plains, a good 10 to 20 degrees below average.

And we are also anticipating lots of heavy snow. Snow is going to break out first in the northern Rockies on Wednesday, and then overspread the central U.S. thereafter. Then what will take place is it will start its progression eastward, tapping into lots of moisture from the Gulf of Mexico. And that will help to aid in the intense snow that we are expecting to break out all across the eastern half of the country, Thursday into Friday and right on into the weekend.

So what you need to know is that you need to plan ahead of time right now. Plan an alternative route just in case you, unfortunately, run into some delays as well as cancellations because it's going to be a mess.

But the good news is that team of us here at FOX Weather, we want to make sure that you get home for the holiday safely, so you can download that free FOX weather app as well as stream us on any other streaming platform. Bret?

BAIER: All right, that's a good app. Thank you, Kendall.

A judge has granted Kari Lake's request to analyze some Arizona ballots. The Republican gubernatorial nominee's legal team may be allowed to review a random sampling of 50 ballots printed on Election Day as long as the case is not dismissed during a Monday hearing. Those ballots could have had printing issues. She will not be allowed to examine early voting envelopes which would have the signatures. We are following this as it develops.

Up next, the panel with the latest document dump on Twitter , and reaction to former President Trump's new digital trading cards, the politics of all that.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONIE O'SULLIVAN, CNN REPORTER: Coming from the guy who is the free speech absolutist who says he wants this to be a beacon of free expression, it is quite something to see him banning journalists who all just happen to cover him critically, but I would also say fairly.

DON LUSKIN, TRENDMACRO CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER: The reality is that when you are doxing someone, when you're giving away personal information about his family, about his children, about his location, that is nothing but an incitement of violence.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: We'll talk about that and the blocking of certain journalists, at least temporarily on Twitter . Meantime, the latest Twitter files dump that we covered at the top of the show, another tweet from Matt Taibbi, who is covering the documents, "Instead of chasing child sex predators or terrorists, the FBI has agents, lots of them, analyzing and mass flagging social media posts, not as part of any criminal investigation, but as a permanent end-in-itself surveillance operation. People should not be okay with this."

We should point out that the FBI does go after child sexual predators and terrorists, but clearly these documents show that they were monitoring social media as well.

Let's bring our panel, Byron York, chief political correspondent of "The Washington Examiner," Mollie Hemingway, editor in chief of "The Federalist," and Jeff Mason, White House correspondent for Reuters.

Two parts of this story today, Mollie. Let's go to the Twitter files dump. We are one of the only places covering all of this. But what we saw out of it today was really a lot of concern by FBI folks. And what they had was some different places where they had concern, and Twitter reacted to it.

MOLLIE HEMINGWAY, EDITOR IN CHIEF, "THE FEDERALIST": What we saw in the Twitter files today was that the FBI had hordes of people that were surveilling the legal political expression of Americans. We in this country have First Amendment rights to speech, including political speech. The FBI had dozens of agents working to collect this information and then hand it over to Twitter with a request that something be done about it, that these would have their Twitter accounts taken down.

This is really concerning for people who care about civil liberties, and it's also just a reminder of not how much not just Twitter has been meddling in our elections, because a lot of this dealt with election issues, but also how much the FBI has as well.

BAIER: Meantime, the other part of the story, as I mentioned, "The Intercept" has, "Elon Musk taking aim at journalists. I'm one of them. I'm one of the at least eight journalists," this is from a person who wrote this, "who were casualties of Elon Musk 's Thursday night massacre after the billionaire went on a power hungry suspension spree. Twitter didn't explain what rules I allegedly broke but that's to be expected under new management whose transparency has mostly consisted of Musk personally replying to tweets explaining his decision-making. My suspension is likely temporary, or it could be permanent. Who knows?"

Elon Musk tweeting out, "Criticizing me all day long is totally fine, but doxing my real-time location and endangering my family is not." Jeff, what about that part of the story?

JEFF MASON, WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT, "REUTERS": Well, lots of focus on Twitter , that's for sure, and the fact that he has taken some journalists off will certainly raise and has raised the question of whether he really wants the platform to be one that is about free speech and that gives even critical voices and critical journalists the opportunity to share their reporting or to share their views. The point about doxing, of course, is the one that he is emphasizing now. At least a couple of those journalists, one of whom you just quoted, I think have said they were not doing any doxing and still didn't have any explanation as to why they were taken off.

BAIER: Yet, Byron, that got a lot of coverage. The other parts of Twitter files that have come out has not gotten a lot --

BYRON YORK, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT, "THE WASHINGTON EXAMINER": I would like to know how many of these people were complaining when Twitter suspended the account of a whole newspaper, "The New York Post," in October of 2020, right before the election.

And as far as this doxing is concerned, all of this information is called publicly available information. A good internet sleuth can find all sorts of things on the internet, and when you reveal it in the public about a well-known person, I think that qualifies as doxing. And finally what we have seen today really confirms this idea that the Twitter story is really an FBI story. This is arm's-length violations of the First Amendment.

BAIER: We will continue to follow this, and there's lots of different angles to it.

The other story that we've been following is this big announcement was made by the former president, and we came to find out that he was selling these trading card, NFT cards. His former senior advisor Steve Bannon , who has a podcast, reacted to that on the podcast. Take a listen.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

STEVE BANNON , FORMER ADVISER TO PRESIDENT TRUMP: I've got to tell you, whoever, what business partner, and anybody in the comms team and anybody in Mar-a-Lago, and I love the folks down there, but we're at war. They ought to be fired today.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: Forbes says "Donald Trump 's digital trading cards sold out in one day, netting \$4.4 million. The NFT project is Trump's first big move since announcing last month he would once again run for president. He hinted at the announcement for days before, leading some followers to believe he may be announcing a major political move, including a possible running mate." Mollie, what about this?

HEMINGWAY: He clearly made a lot of money off of doing this, but if he is wanting to run for president, what he does best is taking on the establishment of Washington, D.C. The average Republican voter, and for many average Americans, they are livid at what is happening in Washington, D.C. They want him focused, they want him understanding that he needs to represent all of the pain and suffering that they are going through, and how little that they are getting from even the Republican establishment to help them out. And so he should remember to focus on that.

BAIER: It's a lot of money, it's going to him personally, Jeff, but boy, the political backlash from the left and right for this move to do this as the major announcement, it seems like it may not pay off.

MASON: If you're President Trump and you've lost Steve Bannon , then there's something wrong, politically certainly. Yes, he made some money, but is that what he needs right now? Given the reaction to his role broadly over the last few weeks, it's pretty clear that mainstream Republicans are ready to take him on. If he's also beginning to lose people in his base like a Bannon, than that \$4.5 million may not be worth it.

BAIER: I'm not sure he lost Bannon on his run or his policies. He lost him on this move, clearly.

At the same time, the Florida Governor, Ron DeSantis , who is not running for president, at the same time all this is happening, he's meeting with the Israeli ambassador to the United States, who tweeted "I had a productive meeting with Governor Ron DeSantis together with the UAE Ambassador Al Otaiba. We gave an overview of the Abraham Accords and strategic significance and opportunities they present to our region and the world and to Florida. We invited him to visit our countries sometime soon." This is a Florida governor who is not running for president talking to two nations about the Abraham Accords.

YORK: The contrast could not be greater. Ron DeSantis , recently reelected, big margin, is doing serious stuff. Maybe he's overreaching, but he is doing serious stuff, and Donald Trump has sold these NFTs. Pretty clear.

BAIER: All right, standby panel. Up next, the Friday lightning round. With the coming end of Title 42 immigration rules. Plus, Winners and Losers, and later "Notable Quotables." And as we had to break, you can check out "Common Ground," the podcast I have, left and right coming together, plus the all-star panel. And there you go, FOXNewsPodcast.com.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HUGH HEWITT, SYNDICATED RADIO HOST: I was just berating the knucklehead caucus. And I know you're a gentleman, you won't single out people. But these five Republicans are screwing up the transition. Are they retreating? Are they going to let things move forward, leader McCarthy?

REP. KEVIN MCCARTHY, (R-CA), HOUSE MINORITY LEADER: The difficulty here is that we are the only Republican entity stopping the Biden administration. But we're also going to be the only ones that can move forward. But it would delay everything, getting committees up and running, being able to do the things that you know we need to get done at the very beginning.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: It's Leader McCarthy, hoping to be Speaker McCarthy. "Axios" has it, "Five House conservatives plan to vote as a unit on McCarthy's speaker bid. McCarthy is working tirelessly to negotiate concessions that would tamp down the far right rebellion. But some conservatives in the group of five, such as Biggs and Gaetz, are widely viewed in the conference as never McCarthy members who won't support him regardless of what he caves on." We'll put up the pictures of the five. Byron, is McCarthy in trouble?

YORK: Yes, he is. If you have five people who don't vote for him, he's not going to be the Speaker. Knowing Kevin McCarthy, he is not a visionary, but he's a really organized guy, and he's got a plan. My guess is that he has already planned some concessions that he's going to make to them. He's just not going to make them right now because if he makes them now, they'll come up with new things to ask for. So I think this is all be done in the last couple of days before the January 3rd election.

BAIER: January 3rd. Jeff?

MASON: It's another sign of how that close election is kind of a gift to Democrats. The Democrats obviously won't have control of the House, but this is exactly what they are delighted to see, and that is rough for the Republican leader.

BAIER: Mollie?

HEMINGWAY: I think people can calm down about it, though, too. If they like how things are happening in D.C., they just want the same people to be reelected quickly, like what happened in the Senate, that's fine. But if you want some changes, and some of these people do want some changes, now is the time to fight about it, because they have some leverage. They can get some rules changes, and maybe it can make people happier. So it's not as clean as we have seen in the past, but it will probably work out.

BAIER: But is it McCarthy who becomes speaker?

HEMINGWAY: I think so.

BAIER: Yes. All right, Title 42, Secretary Mayorkas on planning to end Title 42, "Despite our efforts, our outdated immigration system is under strain. A real solution can only come from legislation that brings long overdue and much needed reform to a fundamentally broken system." This now, Mollie, is the refrain from the administration.

HEMINGWAY: What's amazing is that Mayorkas kept saying that even with the end of Title 42, that we would see fewer crossings. They are now realizing that it's going to be a massive problem, but so much of what the Biden administration is trying to do is to stop any of the things that have helped in border situations. They are suing the governor of Arizona for trying to help build a border wall because of what they are not doing. So they are sending very mixed messages here.

BAIER: Jeff, it is tough listening to the White House from the podium. Those are the questions, as we are ticking down to this Title 42 deadline.

MASON: For sure. I think it's a tough story for them, and Karine Jean- Pierre saying that they are prepared, well, there will be an answer to whether or not they were prepared when we see that go away. So it's one to watch. They're certainly vulnerable.

BAIER: Winners and Losers. Winner first.

YORK: My winner is Ron DeSantis, the aforementioned Ron DeSantis. Polls show him moving up even though he's not even running yet. The loser is Prince Harry and Meghan Markle. This big self-justifying, image-polishing documentary comes out, and people like them even less than before.

(LAUGHTER)

BAIER: Jeff, winner and loser?

MASON: Winner, Republicans and Democrats who supported the Marriage Equality Act which President Biden signed earlier this week at the White House. Losers, investors and holiday shoppers this week. Inflation is still high, above seven percent, despite the fact that it's down a little bit. The stock market went down.

BAIER: Mollie?

HEMINGWAY: Winner, France for the second World Cup in a row making it to the final, where they're going to take on Argentina in what is going to be an awesome match. And loser, Sam Bankman-Fried, finally arrested and indicted this week for some of what he was involved in with his company.

BAIER: Yes, where is that story going to end? Do we know?

MASON: Explain that one, Mollie.

(LAUGHTER)

HEMINGWAY: It is going to be bad, many people involved. I think we're going to find out a lot more about who was investing, what happened in the last few months. And there will be a lot of sad people as they have to pay back some of the money.

MASON: And there will be more talk about regulation, I think, in Washington with that story. It's really put it on the front page and at the top of people's agendas.

BAIER: Great panel, thank you. I have got a winner this week. I don't usually have a winner, but I have a winner for all the people who brought in toys. We do a toy drive every year. And yesterday, my family went to Children's National Hospital here in Washington and delivered those toys to the families on the heart and kidney floor. And there are so many happy people just to get these presents. We had a truckload of toys.

And as you know, we have talked about it many times. My son, who is now 6'2", has had four open-heart surgeries and 10 angioplasties there, and he gets a lot out of helping those kids and giving them toys on Christmas. So those are my winners, for all the toys. Thank you.

It's Friday. Time for "Notable Quotables."

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: FTX had absolutely no risk management, no accounting processes.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I'm quite overbooked. It's very difficult for me to move right now and travel.

JOE BIDEN, (D) PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: I may be Irish, but I'm not stupid.

KARINE JEAN-PIERRE, WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY: So look, I'm covered here by the Hatch Act. I am covered here by the Hatch Act. I'm covered here by the Hatch Act.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: When you look at what is happening after Title 42 goes away, it's going to be even more disaster.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: We are doing the work. We're going to do this in a safe and humane way.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Do you believe your rhetoric is a threat to democracy, when you are calling to accost a branch of government, the Supreme Court.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I don't believe that's a correct characterization of my statements.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: But you tweeted that. Did you not tweet that?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I suppose Boehner is crying right now.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Let me just say, you are one tough cookie.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: There are a lot of creative things that happen on TikTok, but there are huge risks.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Absolutely necessary to take greater precautions.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: A deadly virus breaks out in that city where that lab is at, and they try to tell us, oh, no, no, no. It didn't start in a lab.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I don't trust anything that comes out of communist China.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I actually thought there was going to be something important said. There wasn't. It's about him making money.

NANCY PELOSI , (D-CA) HOUSE SPEAKER: I don't think we should talk about him while we are eating.

(LAUGHTER)

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: That's one week covering this place. Monday on SPECIAL REPORT, the House January 6th Committee meets to consider a criminal referral against the former President Trump.

Please join Shannon Bream on FOX NEWS SUNDAY. Her guests, Texas Republican Congressman Chip Roy, Democratic Congresswoman Veronica Escobar , also from Texas.

Thank you for inviting us into your home and all of this week. That's it for this SPECIAL REPORT, fair, balanced, and still unafraid. Make it a great weekend. And we're closing in on Christmas. "JESSE WATTERS PRIMETIME" starts right now. Hey, Jesse.

END

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HD **Mugshot Released Of Joe Biden's Non-Binary Nuclear Waste Official; Disgraced FTX Founder Denied Bail In Bahamas; Florida Cop Nearly Dies After Exposure To Deadly Drug; Scary Fentanyl Accident: Florida Cop Nearly Dies After Exposure To Deadly Drug; Kamala To The Rescue: WAPO Writer Defends VP As Effective Politician; Fans Think Home Alone Kid Became Serial Killer**

BY Brian Kilmeade, Jesse Watters, Jeanine Pirro, Jessica Tarlov, Dana Perino

WC 8,495 words

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LP

NEIL CAVUTO, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: I know it well.

TRACY CERNAN, DAUGHTER OF ASTRONAUT GENE CERNAN: He was a very special individual.

TD

CAVUTO: As are you Tracy. Good stat, good DNA, wonderful family, a kind family. Harkening back to a time we had a mission, and we completed it and now a new mission.

JEANINE PIRRO, FOX NEWS CHANNEL LEGAL ANALYST: Hello, everyone. I'm Judge Jeanine Pirro, along with Jessica Tarlov, Jesse Watters, Dana Perino and yes, Brian Kilmeade. It's 5:00 in New York City and this is THE FIVE.

The woke apocalypse is upon us and it's festering under liberal leaders everywhere. We are getting our hands on the mugshot of disgraced former Department of Energy official Sam Brinton, the non-binary nuclear waste expert is out of a job after being accused of stealing luggage in two different airports.

Before being caught red-handed, Brinton was getting praised for being one of the first openly gender-fluid people to work in the federal government. Republicans now hope that President Biden has learned a lesson on woke hires.

They are demanding answers from the DOJ, requesting an investigation into how Sam was able to get security clearances in the first place. But the Democrats woke drama doesn't end there.

In Washington State, Governor Jay Inslee held a summit that included a presentation claiming phrases such as objectivity and individualism are rooted in white supremacy culture.

And Cambridge dictionary just added a new definition of woman to be more inclusive. The definition description even swaps out the word she for they.

OK, do you know what the problem is Dana? I always feel like I'm about to get into trouble. Like, who, he, they, he, she.

Anyway, let's talk about let's start with this guy, Sam, he's dealt with this day. Sam Brinton, right?

(CROSSTALK)

BRIAN KILMEADE, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: He's a criminal.

DANA PERINO, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: He.

PIRRO: OK. Well, he's got to be convicted. But what I want to know, Dana, and number one is we don't know if he has some prior record.

PERINO: Right.

PIRRO: What we do know is that after he was arrested and made an admission as it relates to his theft of luggage in an airport, he kept his security clearance and he kept his job. And then he's arrested for another felony.

So, the question is, you know, the Department of Energy is not answering the question as to how this guy who has a security clearance been arrested on two felonies. And you know, he's all -- he's presumed innocent and all that. How does he maintain his security clearance?

PERINO: I'm not sure. I mean, the Office of Presidential Personnel, I think has some answering to do. One, obviously, I don't know about a previous record, but it seems unusual that at this age, you would all of a sudden start stealing luggage off of the carts and airports.

PIRRO: Very good, Dana.

PERINO: Thank you.

PIRRO: You could be an investigator.

PERINO: Yes, exactly, I read those -- all those books when I was a kid. So, that seems unusual. It's not unusual that someone might lie during the vetting process in order to get an approval.

But it seems to me there could have been in this case like excitement about having the first of this and the first of that in the first day.

And, you know, when he got the job, there was a lot of celebration. He did a lot of social media. And so, he wanted attention. And that's just an important job.

Any of these jobs where you have a security clearance, it's really serious. Like, if you smoke pot, you can't get a security clearance.

KILMEADE: Right.

PERINO: So, there's -- would you agree?

JESSE WATTERS, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Oh.

PERINO: Yes, exactly.

So, I am for diversity in the workplace on merit.

WATTERS: Right.

PERINO: I think America wants a meritocracy, especially when you're talking about something that has to do with national security, or in the -- when you are raising children -- teaching children in schools.

And also, this is so interesting, we did this topic, just the other day, I learned more about this organization called donoharmmedicine.org. It is shocking what has happened -- happening in academia, but also in hospitals, in order to get -- even in dentals office, because in order to get your occupational license, for example, you have to do all this anti-racist training.

And with this group, do not donoharmmedicine.org they believe everyone needs care, and the access to care is very important. Their concern is that this type of ideology is leading to negative care for people and endangering lives unnecessarily. So, I encourage people to check that out. You'll be pretty shocked at some of the examples that you see.

PIRRO: You know, Jesse, one of the things that we heard about -- I mean, one of the things that I was reading as we came into this was that Washington Governor Inslee's administration advises agencies of concepts like objectivity and individualism are rooted in white supremacy and should be rejected in favor of indigenous relational pedagogy. I mean, do you have any thoughts on that?

WATTERS: Well, ask the Indians if they think being objective is a white thing or ask the Africans if they think individualism is white supremacy. I don't think Jay has ever asked one of them.

This guy, Sammy, sticky fingers. He wasn't just any transgender. He was like, the sexual pioneer of transgender. You Google him, which I assume they did before hiring him. He's wearing leather, there's a leash. There's a dungeon involved. I wouldn't call it deviancy. I wouldn't call it perversion. Let's just say he's sexually adventurous.

And when you are in that world that he's in, and he's deep, you can be blackmailed, easily blackmailed. And now if you have a security clearance - - remember how Jared Kushner had a hard time getting a security clearance. Jared Kushner, the whitest, most proper conservative, doesn't drink, buttoned up, you know, look, very (INAUDIBLE), he was having a hard time.

This guy has a security clearance. That's how insane this was. So, they didn't vet this guy. But that doesn't shock me because they didn't vet the Afghans. They were clinging to the planes in Kabul. Yes, come in Muhammad, whatever. Could be Al-Qaeda, could be ISIS. Hop on board, we're going to fly into Michigan.

Or what about all these illegals? Same thing. They're not vetting anybody. They're not vetting anybody on the border, anybody overseas and they're not vetting these guys.

Now, who else are they letting in? That's what I'm worried about. That's the point. And if you can't run the administration properly, you can't run the country properly.

Johnny actually went out on the Cambridge thing and he asked regular New Yorkers, what is the definition of a man? What is the definition of a woman? And these are liberal New Yorkers and even liberal New Yorkers know this is -- as you would say, Judge, hogwash.

PIRRO: Hogwash, that's it baby. You're not my baby.

All right, you know what? The truth is, Brian, that when you've got these people who are absolutely insistent on, you know, being gender fluid as this guy is, he's not one or the other. He's just non-binary, gender fluid, dresses the way he feels. I guess it's OK, we'll ask Jessica in a minute.

But, you know, they start advertising for the CIA. I am a sis -- no, a gender-fluid individual. And I'm intersectional bipolar, and, you know, with people who are pilots in the airlines as well. And when I think back to the last year, it's like merit doesn't matter anymore.

Like Kamala Harris, obviously, merit didn't matter in her selection. That was political identity, and nothing else, that can't do anything to help this country.

KILMEADE: I don't envy you hosting this block. This is the craziest thing. Here's why. Because none of it makes any sense. I don't think anybody agrees with this.

And Jesse, I'm going to challenge you. I think he's the only person or he/she is the only person that can't be blackmailed. He posted all the words you could possibly have.

Yes, you can't blackmail him. He's already done it, he blackmailed himself, but you got him.

There's no way they check this guy out. If they did check it out. And they should pursue this, you just say listen, and all this stuff is posted, and you go, you're the guy who should handle nuclear waste, you'll be perfect. You're only 35 and not much of an energy background, and tend to spend a lot of time at different outfits. So, good job.

By the way, stealing, I've never heard of that.

PIRRO: Yes, talk about waste. I mean, this guy takes suitcases.

KILMEADE: He's going to be looking at 10 years in jail.

So, he gets the job of a lifetime. And he rewards himself and the people that put him there by stealing luggage and getting arrested and embarrassing everyone.

I don't think -- I think 99 percent of the people watching us who have a television, think this is crazy town and objectivity and individualism is not white supremacy.

PERINO: Can I make just one more point before you go to Jesse, because he is a political appointee. So, he's not protected by the career civil service rules. You serve at the pleasure of the president, you could be fired for saying hello the wrong way to the president and you could be out.

So, the fact that they didn't fire him immediately, even after he was arrested is an issue.

PIRRO: Yes. And so, I guess the question, Jessica, is, if it is all about wokeness over competence, it puts America in a tough situation. And if senators are writing to the Department of Energy and asking for answers on how they vet their employees, and they're not getting answers after a third letter.

I mean, can the administration just hide and say we're not going to tell you? This is an important position.

JESSICA TARLOV, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CONTRIBUTOR: Oh, I totally I agree on that front. And I thought that Senator Barrasso, who's kind of been leading the charge on the Republican side has done a really good job and asking questions about this. Hasn't mentioned once that this is a gender fluid person or talked about pronouns, this is it about national security, and that's where this conversation should be. And that's where it should stay.

In terms of just making wokeness appointments, I would push back, you know, heartily against the idea that Kamala Harris and this person are comparable in any way in terms of getting their position.

And I know how you feel about her, but that woman is qualified for this job. And everybody who wins an election or an introduction is picked for a position has certain attributes. And yes, it does matter that she is a black woman, the same way that it mattered that Mike Pence was a white evangelical when Donald Trump picked him up because he couldn't have won that voting bloc. And that's it.

KILMEADE: I don't think the color of his skin got Mike Pence the job.

TARLOV: No, his religion, because Donald Trump, you know, 50-time philanderer after the you know what tape, needed some help with people of faith, right? Who weren't interested in voting for someone like that.

So, I just want to stop diminishing Kamala Harris. In terms of --

PIRRO: No, I won't but you can say she's great, I'm not going to stop. The woman can't say anything competent without laughing.

TARLOV: So, Bill Maher and Barack Obama have been talking about this, making people feel bad about when they don't know what to say, right? About pronouns or just don't make people feel bad about things.

But also, on the flip side of that, it doesn't take that much to find out how somebody wants to be addressed.

And if you do know that, do not intentionally make fun of them, or challenge the way that they live for your own comfortability. No one should be made to feel bad about like you said, I'm nervous to say X, Y or Z, you know, he --

PIRRO: I am nervous because you get criticized.

TARLOV: I said no one should be made to feel that if they're making a genuine effort to treat people with respect and dignity.

WATTERS: OK, how about this, identifies a doctor, referred to me as Dr. Watters.

TARLOV: Fine. PhD or medical. I'm PhD. Are you going medical?

WATTERS: Dr. Watters. I'm going to operate offer that but I'm not going to operate all over you.

TARLOV: I can deliver a baby. No one's going to let you do any of that.

PIRRO: Ahead, crypto creeps and Bankman-Fried, that's another one, is facing justice. But what about the Democrats who took his dirty stolen money? Next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

KILMEADE: Welcome back, everybody. Crypto conman Sam Bankman-Fried will have a lot of time to talk about all the customers that he ripped off. The former FTX founder sitting in a rat-infested Bahaman jail cell after getting denied bail. He is fighting extradition to the U.S. on wire and security fraud charges and faces up to 115 years in prison.

While that plays out, what about the Democrats who took his dirty money? Will they give it back? Republicans too for that matter.

Bankman-Fried was the Democrat's second biggest donor next to George Soros. I heard him handing out about \$40 million in money he stole at least but the White House doesn't seem interested in talking about it.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Will the President return that donation? Does he call on all politicians who got campaign donations that may have come from customer money to return those funds?

KARINE JEAN-PIERRE, WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY: So, look, I am covered here by the Hatch Act. I'm limited on what I can say. And anything that's connected to political contributions from here, I would have to refer you to the DNC.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

KILMEADE: Really? But some Democrats are calling for the money to be returned.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Do you think those should be returned to investors and customers who use FTX as opposed to donating now that he's accused of fraud?

REP. ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ (D-NY): Yes, absolutely. I don't fault individuals, you know, who were -- who donated those funds because I don't know if they had full transparency at that time.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Do you want to see fellow Democrats and Republicans that he donated to all return those donations or donate them to charities like we've seen some do?

REP. HENRY CUELLAR (D-TX): Yes, I think they should return it to charity.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

KILMEADE: That's two, let's see. Judge, this guy's in a lot of trouble. He wanted to get out of jail. He said, because he's a vegetarian. And he has ADD and they didn't go with that, surprisingly.

So, he stays in jail to at least February 8th, your reaction to returning the money? Should they -- are they obligated to return that money?

PIRRO: Well, first of all, you're talking about the politicians returning the money. Correct?

OK. First of all, it's going to be very difficult. I think they should return the money. Absolutely. This money is fraudulent money. It's dirty money. And it was part of a scheme to defraud. And it's -- the scheme that is bigger than anything I think we've ever seen in this country.

So, let's not get each other the money shouldn't be returned.

It's going to be complicated because they're in the middle of a bankruptcy. They're starting at bankruptcy proceedings. You've got both state and federal laws that will complicate that, it appears that there are one million creditors, one million people who have been conned out of \$1.8 billion.

So, it's going to be very hard. I mean, just the logistics of this and just getting all the facts together, it's going to be difficult.

But I want to talk about this dirtbag, OK? I want to talk about the fact that he knew something was coming up. And that's why he started putting so much money into newspapers and giving it to journalists, because he was trying to buy them out.

He said, oh, I just wanted honest -- an honest media, honest journalist and honest Fourth Estate. No, you were buying favoritism.

And now he's got something like \$300 million in Brazil, OK, that he put there in an effort like most defendants who are wealthy in an effort to get away if he can abscond and just use this money to change his identity.

And I mean, that's what Robert Durst did that so many of my own defendants in cases that I had would do.

So, forget that he's got ADHD, forget that he's, you know, he's a vegan, I don't give a damn and neither does any other red blooded American.

My concern is in the Bahamas, he better stay there. I don't want to hear that he took off that they can't find him now or that he killed himself and all that.

KILMEADE: Well, they think he's a flight risk so that's why they put him in jail.

PIRRO: Clearly.

KILMEADE: Dana, is the press secretary right? The Hatch Act prevents her from talking about this?

PERINO: I haven't consulted the Counsel's Office on it. I do find it -- I do want -- the president of the United States can have an opinion about anything that he wants.

The Hatch Act violation is what you do, right? That's on you. So, we saw that in the previous administration, there was a Hatch Act violation accusation about selling of T-shirts or something like that, and it's usually like, hey, you can't do that anymore. And you say, OK, sorry.

To me, this is something where the president of the United States could have an opinion if he wanted. And if he -- if he were to ever do an interview, and he would be asked about it. He couldn't say I can't talk about this because of the Hatch Act, that's it, that would imply.

But I appreciate the fact that there is a way to dodge as a press secretary, because anytime you can find that safe harbor, you should -- you should take it but the president United States could have an opinion.

I also want to talk about the fact that these parents are the ones that -- they seem to be in on it. His parents were in on it in giving these donations.

And the thing that's really disgusting about it is there are limits on what you can give to a politician. So, let's say it's \$5,000 but Sam was doing was saying Jesse, I know that you don't have an extra \$5,000 but I know you'd like to have access to this congressman, so I'll tell you what I'm going to do, I'll put it -- I'll put it in your name. So, you don't have -- you don't have the money, I'll donate.

The fact that it was a stolen money. So, now I'm curious about like, who else -- if you knew about that, then are you in trouble as well? If that were to happen?

PIRRO: Absolutely.

KILMEADE: What about the celebrities? Kevin O'Leary \$15 million to be a spokesperson for this and he got different equity in something we know that is worthless now. Do you think they should feel compelled to give the money back?

WATTERS: That's a really good question. Because if someone came to me, and I had no idea this thing was a scam. And they were going to pay me \$15 million.

KILMEADE: Tom Brady, Gisele.

WATTERS: Do a commercial and tout FTX, I'd probably take it. I'd probably take it.

KILMEADE: But wouldn't you do a thorough vetting knowing that your credibility was on the line?

TARLOV: Or you just give the money back.

PIRRO: You would do due diligence, Jesse.

WATTERS: I would look at this guy's hair and immediately know he was a scam artist. But you know, Tom Brady and Kevin O'Leary, they're just not as perceptive as I am.

KILMEADE: But they have teams.

WATTERS: I have Johnny. I have Johnny and Johnny would have seen this guy shake like he did. And with Chuck Todd, under his withering questioning, Johnny would have known right there, this guy is soft.

And I love seeing soft, rich men go to dirty prisons. I love it. I like knowing how grimy the cell is. There's rats, there's rodents, there's maggots. And I love the fact that he's uncomfortable and he's going to be uncomfortable for a while.

The reason you're never going to get anybody to ask Joe Biden, if he's going to return the cash is because Joe Biden does interviews with Drew Barrymore.

He hadn't done a real interview in months. And then he goes to Drew. Do you think Drew Barrymore is going to ask him about the dirty money from Miss Mini Madoff (PH)? Of course not.

KILMEADE: I don't think so. I'm not -- I'm sure they probably did a cooking segment.

WATTERS: Of course.

KILMEADE: Jessica, in the big picture, I think the other thing to keep in mind is I think crypto is on the docket too. Jamie Dimon came out, Warren Buffett came out and says this stuff is not real. A lot smarter financially than almost anybody on the planet.

So, I think we have to reexamine what we're doing. I think this thing's going to fall like a house of cards.

TARLOV: Well, that seems to be what Sam Bankman-Fried was trying to avoid, right, with these donations. The idea that government was finally looking into it, right, and we're thinking about regulating it. And there were people on both sides, obviously more Democrats than Republicans who thought that's where we needed to go.

But I remember that transition when I was still living in London, friends of mine who worked in banking said, oh, well, we're opening up, you know, we're getting into blockchain technology. We're going to start exploring what's going on the dark web, people are using alternative currencies.

And I thought this is so weird. The governments must hate this, right? It removes all control from the people who cherish control more than anything.

But they're going to have to rethink the idea that, "free market" is really that free because you end up with people who've been defrauded out of billions of dollars.

KILMEADE: And I always was under the impression that the rich and famous and the successful and the powerful know something we don't, but I'm sitting here --

TARLOV: Maybe on a skin care routine.

KILMEADE: Right, I'm looking here on stage with Tony Blair, and Bill Clinton talking about world leadership and philanthropy. And the next thing you know, this guy is sitting in a prison.

TARLOV: People motivated by getting rich. It's an Achilles heel for everyone.

KILMEADE: All right, up next on this show. Thanks, everyone for participating. I hope you stick around the rest of the show. A heart stopping moment when a Florida cop nearly dies from a fentanyl poisoning attempt during a traffic stop.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

WATTERS: Insane video that captures America's fentanyl crisis. A Florida police officer almost dying after she got exposed to the deadly drug during a traffic stop.

Officer Courtney Bannick, who was wearing gloves is believed to have been exposed to the lethal opioid while examining rolled-up dollar bills the police say contain fentanyl.

She was quickly given two doses of Narcan and everything seemed OK. But then this happened, watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Breath. Hit her again. She's not breathing, hit her again.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

WATTERS: After a third dose of Narcan, an ambulance brought her to the hospital where she's expected to make a full recovery.

Judge Jeanine, of all the things to police have to deal with --

PIRRO: Yes.

WATTERS: -- people coming out of these traffic cars with guns, everything. Narcan, now you got to watch out for.

PIRRO: You know, when I was the DEA, it was one of the things that was just -- you know, we were just starting to deal with fentanyl. And so, I was able to get Narcan. What I used to do is if we couldn't get it in the budget, because there were 43 police departments in my jurisdiction, I would go to private corporations and say, can you give us money for Narcan so that we gave it to police officers and police departments?

I tell you, that is one of the few times you'll see this. But this happens all the time across America. There is no way to vet whether or not there's fentanyl in a car, in dollar bill, or in a case or wherever police are going. She's lucky that there was someone else on the scene who could get the Narcan and understood what was going on.

Look, the bottom line for this to me is we have got to wipe out in China those factories that are creating the fentanyl that is being sent through the -- to the cartels through our southern border. They are killing us. And you know, we've been saying it over and over again. And Joe Biden, of course, has other priorities. But if

we had a strong president, and if we had someone who understood that 300 people a day are dying from this, 300 individual people, then they would understand that we've got to literally wipe out those factories in China and stop saying China, you know, it's a good country.

WATTERS: the president should invite this officer to the White House and talk to the American people directly about this plague.

TARLOV: I think that's a great idea. But this is not going to be a partisan scuffle on this. I would push back on the idea that the President hasn't addressed it at all. I hear that regularly. He gave a billion and a half dollars to every single state to address this crisis. There's 42.5 billion --

KILMEADE: That is coming through the border.

TARLOV: Just -- I let you speak. Just let me finish, and then you can say that everything I said was, you know, fairy dust or whatever.

WATTERS: Agreed.

TARLOV: OK, so he's pushing to make Narcan over the counter to make sure that more people can have it. There's federal funding going to buy fentanyl test strips, which is apparently integral and doing this. So, if you are examining cash, you can use the test strip ahead of time, so you know this. But it's obviously a huge problem and it's a geopolitical problem. It's a China problem and it's a Mexico problem.

So, I believe that he is trying his best with what he can do on the ground in terms of funding for these crises. But obviously, it has to be stamped out on an international level.

WATTERS: How important is it to show this footage of an officer go down like that and almost die?

PERINO: Well, you know, her -- there's one thing for her. Like, her privacy isn't available to her, but she was willing to let people see that that's happening.

PIRRO: Yes.

PERINO: I talked to Chief Billy Hoffman today. He's my friend down in Jersey. And he said that because it was in the rolled up dollar bills, he thinks is probably somehow laced in cocaine or heroin that was being trafficked. So, that --

PIRRO: The fentanyl was in it.

PERINO: The fentanyl-like laced within it. So, she's doing the right thing doing her job. And she gets into a position where she almost loses her life. He said that all of his guys carry multiple doses of Narcan on them now. We've talked to parents multiple times on "AMERICA'S NEWSROOM" who wish that they had had Narcan in their homes or in their cars for when, all of a sudden, their teenage kid goes into something that you don't recognize. It's like an opioid truck. It's almost like you have to have CPR training for your family. And then this kind of Narcan training.

Jessica, I appreciate the fact that you can put money towards this problem. But Joe Biden won -- he never talks about the border. We know this is coming through -- from the border. And it's not just fentanyl. I talked to a police officer in Michigan the other night. They have a huge problem of meth in the western part of Michigan. And he said it is Mexican meth and it is pure and it is cheap and they can't get rid of it.

So, all of these problems, there's a root cause of it. And we can throw money at this problem. But until we deal with the root cause -- there's not enough money in the world to deal with it appropriately.

WATTERS: Brian?

KILMEADE: If you can't be serious and not crack down on the border and mentioned it, you can't be serious and not mention it to the Chinese leader. What was he doing yesterday at 5000 people over the White House to celebrate the final legalization of interracial marriage? Finally, Blacks and Whites can marry. I did not know we were out there -- it was -- I think we handled that 100 years ago. So, for him to focus on that, never bring up the border, never bring up the interdictions, never go down there, go to a rehab center, or go to a -- or go visit and have a family in that lost somebody because they were taking Ritalin to stay up to go study and the kid ends up dead in his keyboard.

If you start doing those things, that's the messaging for the White House. The former president put Kellyanne Conway in front of it. They started making real gains. And in 2016, he made it a focus over the last four years. I don't think you compare the last two administrations.

Lastly, real quick. China taunted us with their statement when they came out and said America should not worry about our uprisings, they should worry about how many fentanyl deaths are in their country. They are manufacturing the fentanyl that are killing us.

PIRRO: And you know what, as much money as this administration can throw at the problem, until you change the policy, nothing will change. Until you get it at the -- at the head, which is the entrance of Mexico, nothing will change.

WATTERS: All right, and we're all very happy Officer Bannick is doing better.

PERINO: Yes.

WATTERS: Coming up, President Biden as a four-letter response to questions about if he's too old to run for president.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

PERINO: President Biden not happy with questions on whether he is too old to run for president again. The 80-year-old venting to aides about the media's fixation, "You think I don't know how bleeping old I am?" But Democrats should have no fear. Washington Post columnist Eugene Robinson thinks they can turn to Kamala Harris.

He says Harris is "a much better and more effective politician than her current position allows her to demonstrate. She will be a formidable contender for the Democratic Presidential Nomination." Jessica, let me start with you. I think all of us are always well aware of how old we are, right? But it would be weird to be read about -- to read somebody saying all the time just you're too old. And that's not just coming from Republicans. Democrats too are saying, we need to have some new blood.

TARLOV: And on top of it, you have an ego that leads someone to run to be the leader of the free world three times, right? This is not just your average person. And I think it's especially frustrating after this amazing performance for Democrats in the midterms to then say, oh, but you're eight -- you know, oh, but you're 80.

PERINO: But you're 80.

TARLOV: And he's saying, I got it done. If God forbid some health thing crops up, then he won't run. But there's just no good reason why Joe Biden won't announce in January that he's going to run in 2024 and that's it.

PERINO: Yes. Jesse, I think now, it really does feel that he is going to run and that must really break Kamala's heart.

WATTERS: It sure must. But you never know what could happen. He always says, you know, I'm a believer in fate, so I'm not ready to make sure that that's going to happen. I actually like that he said that. This is one of those things where Joe Biden says something and I'm like, yes, that's going to -- yes, whatever.

PERINO: Yes, I agree.

WATTERS: And if I'm 80 and I'm still sitting here on THE FIVE, and I'm still able to cut you down to size, Jessica, I'm going to tune all that media noise --

TARLOV: He's telling to be 74.

WATTERS: -- and keep doing my thing. They might have to roll me in and out of here. I don't care. I'm not leaving.

PERINO: Do you think that other Democrats believe that Kamala Harris is a worthy successor?

KILMEADE: I think they're -- her ratings among Democrats, though, is considerably lower. I think 83 percent of Democrats approve of Joe Biden and something -- 60-something approve of Kamala Harris. I will say this. I know two or three people that know Kamala Harris, and they say they don't even recognize the person that they've seen in front and center over the last year and a half.

WATTERS: In what way?

KILMEADE: The laughing, the uninsured -- the way she's unsure of herself in front of people.

PERINO: The word salad.

KILMEADE: She's clearly having huge self-esteem or self-confidence issues in this position. So, I'll just have to go by what people in Los Angeles might have seen where she was evidently tough on crime for a while and for strong border. And then as opposed to the candidate and the vice president.

And real quick on this. I don't think there's any way Joe Biden is not running. I will say, I think he's absolutely running. I think this is all he ever wanted to do.

PERINO: And I don't think that he's going to have a challenge. That was one of my predictions last year that I got wrong. Judge, in that article that Eugene Robinson writes about Kamala Harris, one of the things he says is that, basically, it's everybody else's fault that she can't be her best self. That she's in this position. She's in an office where she's like in a gilded cage, they don't let her do things. But she has the power to change that and she doesn't.

PIRRO: Look, I don't want to waste a lot of time on her. I don't think she's worth the time. But anyone who is smart and articulate and is capable of speaking in front of the public has the ability to use that office to appear before the public and impress the public. The truth is that she is never prepared when she goes out at particular events. Her staff is quitting on her. I don't know, what are they, up to 18 now? They say that it's a toxic, hateful work environment that she's in charge of. And she's just a fool laughing around us. Now, she may have been smart, but I don't see it. So, let's just forget about her.

And let me tell you something else. The governor, Gavin Newsom, is going to run before she's going to run for president. I think he made that --

KILMEADE: Well, they'll both run.

PERINO: He made a run for the border.

PIRRO: Yes. And that's what he was doing yesterday. But 70 percent -- I think it's important to understand that 70 percent of registered voters do not want Joe Biden to run for another term. And I think that says it all. So, he can say, you know, I'm sick of them saying it. You know, most people might not say it if he appeared competent all the time.

KILMEADE: Right.

PIRRO: There are moments when he's competent, he's coherent. And then there are times like, where do I go. I got to turn around, you know. And if it weren't for that nobody would care how old he is.

PERINO: Yes, do you want to make --

TARLOV: I just want to add really quickly. Eugene Robinson writes she would be a formidable, you know, contender. She ran already and she didn't even make --

PERINO: She wasn't formidable.

TARLOV: We decided --

PIRRO: Yes, she was not -- one percent?

PERINO: Yes, that's true. She didn't even --

TARLOV: Right -- no, no, she didn't even collect votes.

KILMEADE: She never got to the first round.

PIRRO: Right, right.

PERINO: She dropped out before that. All right, OK, "THE FASTEST" is up next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

TARLOV: Welcome back. It's time for "THE FASTEST." First up, Home Alone is a beloved holiday classic, but does the adorable Kevin McCallister have a hidden dark side?

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MACAULAY CULKIN, ACTOR: You guys give up or you're thirsty for more?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Heads up. Don't worry, man, I'll get him for you.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

TARLOV: Fans have a theory that Kevin grew up to be the infamous serial killer from the Saw movies citing Kevin's love for torturing his victims. Brian, have you heard about this theory? Are you part of this crew?

KILMEADE: I don't think like that. I understand that doesn't really happen. It's not a documentary. And I know what happened to him, Macaulay Culkin. He didn't really pan out to be the guy we thought he was going to be.

WATTERS: Be nice.

KILMEADE: We thought he was going to be like the next Harry Potter and just continue to grow up before our eyes. And he kind of took a left turn.

WATTERS: The next Harry Potter.

TARLOV: Jesse?

WATTERS: I think he's a vigilante. And he single-handedly destroyed the crime wave that was wreaking havoc in that beautiful town. And we need them here in New York City.

TARLOV: Well, then, he came in the second one. No?

PERINO: Yes, to the plaza.

WATTERS: There was the second one?

PERINO: Yes, Home Alone 2.

WATTERS: Home Alone 2?

PERINO: You never saw Home Alone 2?

WATTERS: I haven't seen that one.

KILMEADE: Donald Trump was in it.

WATTERS: Was that any good?

TARLOV: He's playing himself. Yes, it was great.

PERINO: What are you talking about? President Trump was in it.

TARLOV: And pigeon lady.

WATTERS: Oh, yes, yes, I've seen that thing.

TARLOV: The mythical pigeons.

WATTERS: Yes, yes, yes. I hate pigeons.

TARLOV: So, I was -- there's a -- I don't know if it's 100 percent correlation but like, every serial killer tortured to animals as a child, right? Isn't that a thing?

KILMEADE: Usually.

TARLOV: So, is this --

PERINO: I don't know. Here's the thing. I had to read this twice. And I resent having to read it twice. This is nonsense. He's obviously not the serial killer.

KILMEADE: Right. Thank you.

PERINO: He got way too much time on their hands.

KILMEADE: Next.

TARLOV: Including us.

PERINO: Apparently.

TARLOV: Judge, final thoughts on this theory.

PIRRO: I don't have --

TARLOV: Or what do you think of Kamala?

PIRRO: I don't care.

PERINO: Yes, this "FASTEST" topic is dying.

TARLOV: OK, up next, the secret to longevity could be as close as your front door. New research finds getting to know your neighbors can help you live longer. Strong neighborhood connections were found to mitigate the negative impact of living alone on death rates among older adults. So, I absolutely love this. I think this is so important.

PIRRO: It is.

TARLOV: And that we talk about it.

PIRRO: It is. Who lives alone here?

WATTERS: Oh.

TARLOV: Do you know your neighbors?

PIRRO: Well, yes, I know them. Yes.

TARLOV: Do you hang with them?

PIRRO: Do I have like, have lunch with them and stuff like that? No. But we watch out for each other. I like them a lot. But I have three dogs and I'm very busy.

TARLOV: You are very busy.

KILMEADE: Jessica, I just think there's a fine line because you should know your neighbors, but if you get too close to him and the families intertwine, one kid gets in a fight with another kid, the next thing you know, it goes up to the parents or the kid aren't calling the other kids When they get a little bit older. They're not hanging out or they see friends into their house. It gets complicated. So, know your neighbors, just don't get too close to your neighbors.

WATTERS: You have a story you want to tell?

PIRRO: Yes, there's a story there.

KILMEADE: No, I'm just saying that it is -- I know people that get so intertwined people's lives, it gets really complicated. No one shows up for the block party in a couple of years.

PIRRO: Yes, yes.

PERINO: I have found living in New York to be kind of strange and like -- so, we live in a fairly big apartment building. There's several apartments on our floor. I think I've seen -- I've lived there since April. I think I've seen two people. And all the time I've been -- I work early hours. I get home -- I don't get home that late. I don't know. I don't know where all the people are. I don't know any of my neighbors in the building except for Kennedy who lives downstairs.

TARLOV: Oh, that is a fun feature?

PIRRO: How about you, Jesse?

WATTERS: So, I'm moving to New Jersey pretty soon. And we're driving by the house, and I stopped the car and got out of the car because I saw my neighbor outside. And I introduced myself and he was like, oh.

PERINO: Is he a fan?

WATTERS: Yes, of course. And very nice guy. And then he goes well, when you settle in, we'll have you over for a drink. So, guys, what's my next move?

TARLOV: He'll find you.

WATTERS: Do I say, hey, buddy, I'm settled in.

PERINO: I have a feeling that you're not going to have to wait for --

TARLOV: Yes.

PERINO: They're going to come to you immediately.

WATTERS: They're going to come to me?

PIRRO: Yes.

WATTERS: OK. That's how it goes?

TARLOV: Yes. So, I married my next-door neighbor which I guess counts as --

WATTERS: What?

PIRRO: Oh, that is so cool.

WATTERS: You married your next-door neighbor?

TARLOV: We met on the elevator.

PIRRO: You never told me.

(CROSSTALK)

PERINO: She has the best story.

PIRRO: That is beautiful.

TARLOV: So, it can work out, ladies. I mean, maybe he's a serial killer, but so far so good.

(CROSSTALK)

PERINO: Jesse, I do have --

PIRRO: That's a great story.

PERINO: Jesse, you cannot put your Rookie's dog bags in your neighbor's trash can in the suburbs, OK. You cannot -- do not do that.

PIRRO: Yes.

WATTERS: Thank you. There will be neighborhood disputes though for sure.

TARLOV: OK. "ONE MORE THING" is up next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

PIRRO: It's time now for "ONE MORE THING." Dana?

PERINO: You got to check out Chico. This is a bad dog. Bad, bad dog. He's on Santa's naughty list. He --

WATTERS: Oh.

PIRRO: Oh.

PERINO: The owner came home and found the dog --

WATTERS: That's not good.

PERINO: -- all caught up in the lights. And Chico, that is just not very good. That's why we don't have a tree.

PIRRO: Yes.

PERINO: But he's OK. And the tree survived.

PERINO: Yes. OK, all right, go check out this New Orleans teen. Her name is Asia. She's making a name for herself in the cosmetics scene. At the age of 11, Asia showed her entrepreneurial spirit when she decided to make her sister a natural lip gloss after her sister complained that bought ones that she bought didn't work. This led her to founding her own business called Sassy A. In the four years since Sassy A started, Asia has created enough product to do pop-up shops, art markets. And she hopes to grow her

online presence to start selling outside of the New Orleans area. She sent me some of her products. And I have to say, the packaging is very cute.

PERINO: Super cute. I like it.

PIRRO: So, check out Sassy A on Instagram. Really cute stuff.

PERINO: I like that bling on the lip gloss.

TARLOV: Yes.

PIRRO: Yes, I do.

TARLOV: And you'll be able to grab it out of your bag.

PIRRO: All yours. All yours.

WATTERS: Brian, you like that? It's a pretty nice bling on a lip gloss.

PIRRO: Brian, you don't want any lipstick, do you?

KILMEADE: I don't want to commit because I have endorsement deals with other lipgloss.

PIRRO: Jesse, it's your turn.

WATTERS: OK, so the spear fisherman was doing a dive. He's coming up for air and then this happened.

PERINO: Oh, no.

WATTERS: That propeller almost sliced that guy's melon in half.

PIRRO: Wow.

PERINO: Wow.

WATTERS: He survived uninjured. Thank goodness. Well, we're just guessing he's uninjured. Tonight's "PRIMETIME" --

PERINO: Jesse.

WATTERS: We got Massachusetts residents go berserk over this Christmas tree controversy. We sent a camera crew there. You got to see this tonight at 7:00.

PIRRO: OK, Jessica.

TARLOV: All right. So, the weather is definitely unpredictable in Florida, but I'm sure no local forecasts included a monkey rainstorm. This is -- yes, you heard me. This is the aftermath of a primate turf war on the Silver River in Silver Spring State Park in Ocala, Florida.

WATTERS: Yes. Flying monkeys.

TARLOV: The crew of 20 rhesus monkeys --

PIRRO: Where is this?

TARLOV: In Florida.

PIRRO: Yes.

TARLOV: -- cannonballing into the water are unfortunately the losers. Silver Spring State Park is home to at least 300 rhesus monkeys --

WATTERS: Oh. That's so --

TARLOV: -- who take Florida's stand-your-ground law very seriously.

PIRRO: Look at them.

WATTERS: That monkey did a can opener.

PIRRO: Yes.

TARLOV: It's crazy, right? This is my favorite thing ever.

PIRRO: That is amazing.

PERINO: Wow.

PIRRO: OK, Brian.

KILMEADE: All right, here we go. I'm going to be with Dana Perino on Friday night not at work but at play. I would be signing The President: Freedom Fighter. Where am I going to be? At Point Pleasant -- in Point Pleasant Beach, New Jersey.

PERINO: The Little Point Bookshop in Point Pleasant Beach, New Jersey at 5:00.

KILMEADE: At 5:00. And then I'll go do McAllen in Edinburg, Texas, McAllen area. I hope to see everyone there on Saturday.

Real quick. It turns out France was -- turns out the winners of Morocco. It'll be France against Argentina in the final. It's going to be an unbelievable final on Sunday. Fox Sports has done an incredible job. Morocco, your run is over but what a story you are.

PIRRO: That's it for us. "SPECIAL REPORT" is up next. Hey, Bret!

END

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HD **Fed Issues Smaller Rate Hike, Signals More To Come; Feds Brace For Migrant Surge When "Title 42" Ends; Fed Signals More Rate Hikes On The Way Until 2024; Fed Raises Interest Rates Amid Sluggish Economy; New Efforts To Track United States Weapons In Ukraine; FTX Founder SBF In Jail In Bahamas, Facing Charges; DeSantis Leads GOP Pack Of Possible '24 Contenders; 23-Years-Old Arrested In Stabbing Of GA Grandmother**

BY Martha MacCallum, Ari Fleischer, Gerri Willis, Mike Pompeo, Jennifer Griffin, Bret Baier, David Spunt, Kellyanne Conway, Jonathan Serri

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LP

SANDRA SMITH, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: I mean, way to go over here, Larry Kudlow. I mean --

LARRY KUDLOW, FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC COUNCIL OF THE UNITED STATES: Yes, we got that, we got that.

TD

SMITH: He's here right on the breaking news.

JOHN ROBERTS, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: I try not to spend but things do become so expensive, it's impossible not to.

KUDLOW: Tie, tie prices are going sky high.

SMITH: Pretty much, tie inflation, says Larry. All right, thank you so much for joining us. I'm Sandra Smith.

ROBERTS: And I'm John Roberts, we'll see you tomorrow. THE STORY with Martha starts right now.

MARTHA MACCALLUM, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST (on camera): Alrighty. Thank you very much, Sandra and John. Good afternoon, everybody. I'm Martha MacCallum at FOX NEWS headquarters. Right now, on "THE STORY," Stephen Moore, standing by here in New York, as the Fed raises interest rates again, and the market is taking it hard. The signal is that we are not through with this financial difficulty and could be headed to a recession. More hikes are on the way, they're struggling to hit the brakes on this inflation that we have seen despite the fact that the President says it's headed in the right direction. So, we'll talk even more about that.

But first, believe it or not, even with these images of people pouring across our southern border illegally every single day, experts say that in one week, it is about to get a lot worse. That's when COVID Title 42 restrictions will be lifted. So, even more people will be able to cross, that comes on orders from a federal judge. Lawmaker from both sides scrambling right now. They're trying to get President Biden to do everything in his power to extend those restrictions. But that's tricky, too. We're going to look at this from both sides with Ari Fleischer, and Jose Aristimuno. But first, let's go to the White House where Peter Doocy is working this afternoon, as he always is on the North Lawn. Hi, Peter.

PETER DOOCY, FOX NEWS CHANNEL WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT (on camera): And Martha, all of the sound bites you will hear in this report are from Democrats in Congress who do not think the Democratic President Joe Biden has a plan for U.S. immigration policy once Title 42 ends.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. HENRY CUELLAR (D-TX): And what Border Patrol is doing, it's almost like a whack-a-mole in the, in the sense that if there's a surge in the valley, they'll move people down there. If there's if there's more people crossing during the let's say Del Rio, Eagle Pass of agents over there.

DOOCY (voiceover): And there's also a bipartisan letter to the President that says, "DHS is almost completely reliant on Title 42 to control migration from Mexico in the Northern Triangle. The vast majority of Mexicans Guatemalans, Hondurans, and Salvadorans encountered by U.S. border patrol along the border in October 2022. were expelled under Title 42 rather than processed under Title 8." Democrats want answers same as Republicans. But now there is at least one Democrat saying that Alejandro Mayorkas at DHS left him hanging when he asked for info about Title 42 by December 1st.

SEN. JON TESTER (R-MT): We sent a letter very similar three weeks ago, that said, hey, where's your plan? We never got a response back.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Would you ask them to wait?

TESTER: I think that if they don't have a plan, then they need to wait to end.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

DOOCY (on camera): Biden officials used to say all the time that Title 42 is not immigration policy. It is public health policy. But right now, it seems like it is both at least until they can tell people in Congress and people not in Congress, what exactly is going to happen if Title 42 goes away. Martha.

MACCALLUM: Well, that's the job of government is to have a plan when things are changing. They've already gotten a number of extensions on this. And now, it is up in a week and no plan. Peter, thank you very much. So, with that, we bring in Ari Fleischer, former White House Press Secretary for President George W. Bush and a Fox News Contributor; and Jose Aristimuno, former Deputy Press Secretary for the Democratic National Committee. Thank you both very much for being here. I'd like to start actually with another sound bite from Henry Cuellar, and he's asking you know about why there is no plan. He's from Texas. Watch this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CUELLAR: I don't know why they keep avoiding the border and saying there's other things more important than visiting the border. If there's a crisis, show up, just show up, just showing up at the border, would send a strong signal to the communities that he's there, he cares about the border communities just show up. It doesn't take much to just show up at the border.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: Just show up and do your job, essentially, is what he's saying. Jose, what do you say to Congressman Cuellar?

JOSE ARISTIMUNO, FORMER DEPUTY PRESS SECRETARY FOR THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE: Look, with all due respect to the Congressman, having a photo up on the board does not bring a solution to the immigration crisis, Martha. What we need to do is pass comprehensive immigration reform. There's a bill right now in Congress for border enhancement, let's get it passed. The President's 2023 budget has hundreds of millions of dollars for border --

MACCALLUM: But it's working, Jose.

ARISTIMUNO: If Republicans really care --

MACCALLUM: None of that is working.

ARISTIMUNO: What, we need, we need more research -- well, you know what, Martha, I --

MACCALLUM: So, he's saying it's a crisis, so you better show up. He's saying it's a crisis, you can't just say well, I have a bill and it's all going to be fixed. You got to deal with what's happening now on the border of the country.

ARISTIMUNO: Sure. Well, let me let me say this last week, the Border Patrol in the United States confiscated 1.5 million pills of fentanyl. That is good progress and we need to continue to do so.

MACCALLUM: Yes, and those folks are so hamstrung, they don't have enough of them.

ARISTIMUNO: We want to, we going to the work done faster. We need to pass something.

MACCALLUM: They don't have enough support. They don't have --

ARISTIMUNO: We need more. That's why we need to pass. That's how Congress works. That's how Congress works. We need to pass a bigger -- we need to pass a bill to put resource on.

MACCALLUM: All right, that's how Congress. You know, apparently, the President has no authority to do anything in this situation. According to, Jose, it's all falling on the shoulders of Congress, is that the case?

ARI FLEISCHER, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: Yes, you know, I used to be for comprehensive immigration reform, and I'm no longer for it. And here's why, and let me try to put this in terms just explain just how flooded America has become with people taking advantage of our nation in the last policies. Martha, in 2022, we had 2.3 million people come to America illegally. Those are just the ones who are caught. We don't know how many never got touched, never got caught. 2.3 million to put it in perspective, is the size of Washington, D.C., Boston, Atlanta, and Miami combined. So, think of those four cities and say that every year, we're popping up all those four cities full entirely of people who came to America illegally.

Now, at the rate, we expect the immigrants to come here next week, 14,000 a day, that means 5.1 million coming illegally, that's an additional: Dallas, San Francisco, Minneapolis and Des Moines, on top of Washington, Boston, Atlanta and Miami. We are creating massive new American cities of illegal people who came here illegally. For what purpose? What good policy does this support? I'm pro-immigration. But I want our nation to have rules and laws. So, we welcome people here. So, the first action when they get here is to be legal, not illegal. We are on a way to disaster. Joe Biden says don't come. They're coming.

MACCALLUM: Yes, they're coming. Well, first, he invited them to come, during the debate. He said, you know, please come, right? You know, we've played that quote many times. So, that's exactly what happened. They're coming. And you know, I get very sort of simple, straightforward questions a lot from viewers, Jose, where are these people going? Who's supposed to, you know, take care of them? Where are they working? Where are they living? What -- I mean, you can't, I can't walk into another country and just say, you know, I just decided I want to live here, and can you please take care of me? It's not done that way.

ARISTIMUNO: Sure. And I understand that I think a lot of these people obviously are fleeing Central America for economic issues, issues and political --

MACCALLUM: But 80 percent do not have legitimate asylum claims, 80 percent don't have a legitimate asylum claim.

ARISTIMUNO: And I understand that, and that's a fair, and that is a fair assessment. That's why Kamala Harris, the Vice President of the United States went to Central America, and she says --

MACCALLUM: How is that working out?

ARISTIMUNO: -- if you do not have a real case, do not come -- do not come.

MACCALLUM: How's that worked out.

ARISTIMUNO: Well, guess what, if we want it, if we want it to work, we got to reform the system. We need more resources on the ground. That's just a fact.

MACCALLUM: Seriously, Jose, since she brought it up, what is she doing? Because she was supposed to address the root causes.

ARISTIMUNO: We can't just close the border. It's not (INAUDIBLE). We should not close the border.

MACCALLUM: It's obviously there's a lot of root causes that are driving people here. One of them is the magnet of what we offer once they get here. So, what is she, what has she done after that visit to the border to fix this problem, Jose, what has she done name something for me?

ARISTIMUNO: Since, since the first day? Well, since the first day he got into office, January 20th, he put forth an immigration bill. The President did.

MACCALLUM: No, Kamala Harris.

ARISTIMUNO: And the Republicans don't want to use it, because they want to use -- well, they're a team.

MACCALLUM: The Vice President.

ARISTIMUNO: Kamala Harris, President Biden, the Biden administration -- the Biden administration since day one has said Republicans sit at the table, let's put forward immigration reform. Let's legalize the Dreamers that came to this country, no follow their own. Let's put more money on the ground more Border Patrol officers. And Republicans don't want to do it, do you know why they don't want to do it, Martha? Because they want to use it, they want to use it --

MACCALLUM: OK. I mean, that's all great. But you got a crisis on your hands with that 98 terrorists who crossed border, we don't know where they are. Ari, you know, on CNN, one of the analysts there blamed the Trump administration, saying they had four years and they focused on a wall to stop people. And so, it's hard to show any sympathy for what the department and border enforcement has inherited. quick thought on that, Ari, and then I got to go.

FLEISCHER: Actually, the Trump administration focused on fear. It wasn't the wall. It was fear. People did not come over anywhere near the numbers are coming over now, because they feared Donald Trump. They thought he meant it when he said we're not going to let you into the country. So, they didn't come. Now, they're coming because they don't fear Joe Biden.

MACCALLUM: Well, about a quarter even though you see these enormous numbers of people crossing about a quarter are turned back because of Title 42. Several countries, you can't turn them back because of Title 42 for reasons that I don't have time to get into. But so now you're going to have an even bigger influx once we don't have that as, as a potential barrier to make this slightly more organized and humane. People are getting injured. They're getting kidnapped along the way. Horrific stories. Because this is not a compassionate policy.

Gentlemen, thank you very much. Good to have you both here.

ARISTIMUNO: Thank you.

MACCALLUM: So, let's take a look at what's going on in the market right now because it's actually better than it was, it has bounced off of the lows, which is a good sign because we're now in the final hour of trading down about 84 points. Gerri Willis, and this is after the Fed hike, they did a half a point. Gerri Willis is here, Steven Moore is here, who better to explain to you what this is going to mean for your wallet as we head towards Christmas.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: So, the Fed chairman is speaking right now to reporters, and we're going to get some of that sound to you in just a moment because everybody sorts of hangs on the Fed Chairman's words and tries to interpret exactly what he means by what he says. So, we're going to we're doing that right now. And we're going to turn around some of that sound for you.

The Dow is now back in positive territory as the market tries to sort out what this means, interest rates are at their highest level since before the 2008 financial crisis. He boosted another half point today, and the Fed is signaling that they are going to need to do more hikes through to 2024 in order to wrestle inflation down to two percent, it's above seven. They've got to get it down to two percent. That's the target rate.

So, that takes a little bit of muscle and some finesse, a little bit of both.

Economist Stephen Moore is standing by. But first, to Fox Business correspondent Gerri Willis. Hi, Gerri.

GERRI WILLIS, FOX BUSINESS NETWORK CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Hi there, Martha. That is right. The Federal Reserve raising interest rates, 50 basis points.

By the way, that's half a percentage points to us. Mere mortals, they're also signaling, there are more rate hikes to come in 2023.

Now, the hike is the smallest rate increase since the Fed started hiking rates in March. Markets not too happy, can't make up their mind up and down.

They have been hoping for a clear signal that Jay Powell and company are about to slow or stop rate hikes.

Powell and comments moments ago saying that the Federal Reserve sees modest economic growth ahead. The big question for markets, whether the Fed can orchestrate what they call a soft landing, which is to say not throwing the economy into recession, even it has -- it has raised rates dramatically this year, in its toughest rate hike cycle in decades.

The Fed doesn't have a good record on that score. Data from the Federal Bank showing the economy fell into recession, nine of the past 12 times the Fed tighten monetary policy.

Now, Powell trying to eliminate or -- yes, eliminate the inflation that has dogged consumers. This week's Consumer Price Index report showing month to month inflation barely budged at one-tenth of a percent.

But year over year, those numbers are concerning. 7.1 percent rate of inflation. That is a true burden for American families. At that rate, Martha, prices double every 10 years.

MACCALLUM: Yes. Gerri, thank you very much. That last chart, I think, and I mean, we can pop that back up. It really shows the progression of inflation over the course of the Biden presidency.

And you remember, you know, over the past month or so, the president has said, well, it's -- it hasn't changed. Inflation hasn't changed, because he's talking about the little month to month fluctuations.

But that's from the beginning of the administration. Steve Moore joins us now. Founder of the committee to Unleash Prosperity and former senior economic adviser to President Trump.

So, we've got the Dow now basically flat. What's -- what is the market saying about this half of basis point hike, Steve? And actually, let's play this sound bite from the Fed chief just moments ago that we just got in.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JEROME POWELL, CHAIRMAN, FEDERAL RESERVE: So, I just -- I don't think anyone knows whether we're going to have a recession or not. And if we do, whether it's going to be a deep one or not, it's just -- it's not knowable.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: That's comforting.

STEPHEN MOORE, CO-FOUNDER, COMMITTEE TO UNLEASH AMERICAN PROSPERITY: Yes, you know, I think it isn't knowable. Although, Fed policy has a lot of effect on whether we're going to go into recession. I think the reason the markets really been it -- by the way, it open - -yes, as soon as he made his remarks, it went way down.

MACCALLUM: Yes.

MOORE: And now I think the market is kind of digesting what he is saying, and I think that they're more reassured about this. A couple things. One is that you said it very well, we still have 7.1 percent inflation, which is a terrible number over the last 12 months.

And since Biden came in office prices are up by about 14 to 15 percent, and that's why it's causing real hardship for families every time they go to the gas pump or the -- or the grocery store.

So, there is work to be done Martha, to bring these inflation rates down. And I think they're not done, I think that we're going to probably see at least one or two more rate hikes after this one.

Now, think about what sector might really be hit hard by rising interest rates. Housing, right? Now, and how it when those interest rates go up? Mortgage rates go up, we already have a very soft housing market right now.

That's the -- that's the industry I'm most concerned about in the economy.

When Trump left office, were at three percent mortgage interest rate. Now, 6-1/2 to seven, maybe going higher. So, you know, some rough waters ahead.

MACCALLUM: So, you have a very different economic philosophy than the folks who are in charge of the economy right now.

MOORE: That's for sure, Martha.

MACCALLUM: So, if you could advise them, and they were opening to listen --

(CROSSTALK)

MOORE: Yes.

MACCALLUM: -- listen to it, what would you say? Look, here is -- here is the most important thing that you must do right now, if you want to get this.

MOORE: Yes. So, I'm so glad you asked this, because, I think the -- there is only so much the Fed can do to bring down interest -- I mean, inflation.

Why we seen inflation go from two percent under Trump, to nine percent under Biden? I think the answer is pretty obvious to most Americans.

We spent \$4-1/2 trillion we didn't have. We just dump money into the economy. And it was sure as the sun rising in the east and setting in the west, that, that was going to incite a new round of inflation.

And so, yes, the Fed probably had to raise interest rates today. But what I want to see is where there will be a commitment from Congress next year to start draining all of that excessive spending and borrowing.

And I can't answer that question. You know, whether they're going to do it or not.

MACCALLUM: Steve Moore, thank you very much. Always good to see you, Steve.

MOORE: Good to see you.

MACCALLUM: Thanks.

MACCALLUM (voice over): So, ahead this hour, Bret Baier is here. Kellyanne Conway is here, and Mike Pompeo. As the U.S. is poised to start sending Patriot missile defense systems to Ukraine.

This could be a game changer. And what will Putin do in response?

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: So, some big developments here. Fox is now confirming that the Biden administration does have plans in the works to send Patriot missile systems to Ukraine, giving their forces the ability to potentially shoot down incoming Russian missiles and aircraft within a range of up to 100 miles.

The move however, still needs to have final approval from Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin. In a moment, former Secretary of State Mike Pompeo weighs in on what this means.

But first, to chief national security correspondent Jennifer Griffin, who is live at the Pentagon. Hi, Jennifer.

JENNIFER GRIFFIN, FOX NEWS CHANNEL NATIONAL SECURITY CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Hi, Martha.

Well, the Biden administration is finalizing plans to send Patriot missile defense systems to Ukraine for the first time. The Pentagon press secretary remained mum, awaiting the defense secretary and president sign off. An announcement could come as soon as tomorrow.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BRIG. GEN. PATRICK RYDER, PENTAGON PRESS SECRETARY: Right now, again, I don't have anything to announce.

GRIFFIN: The Patriot missile is the U.S. Army's primary long range air and missile defense system. A typical Patriot battery includes a radar set, eight missile launchers and 32 missiles.

The U.S. sent batteries to Poland and Slovakia after Russia's invasion.

The Biden administration is also weighing whether to send a handful of U.S. troops to Ukraine to track American weapons and effort to fend off criticism from House Republicans, who would like to cut funding to Ukraine.

RYDER: At this point, we have no information that would -- no credible information that would indicate that there is been any diversion of Ukrainian assistance into illicit means.

GRIFFIN: On Monday, President Biden at a Toys for Tots event appeared to shoot down the idea of sending any U.S. troops to Ukraine.

JOE BIDEN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: Are we sending troops to Ukraine?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Yes.

BIDEN: No. We're sending material like we have. Billion of dollars' worth.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Mr. President, will you --

GRIFFIN: In May, the U.S. Embassy set up a small team under the Office of Defense Cooperation to conduct inspections on U.S. weapons shipments.

RYDER: In terms of the numbers associated with that mission. Again, we're talking small numbers. We don't discuss specifics for operations. Security reasons and force protection reasons.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GRIFFIN: The Patriot requires dozens of crew to operate and months of training. The U.S. military has cut down the training from months to weeks, teaching Ukrainians to use other missile defense units at training facilities in Germany. Martha?

MACCALLUM: Jennifer, thank you very much.

With that, we bring in former Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, a Fox News contributor. Secretary, great to have you with us as always.

So, what would this mean in terms of our military relationship with Ukraine?

(CROSSTALK)

MIKE POMPEO, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CONTRIBUTOR: Thank you.

MACCALLUM: And what would it mean for the war? How would it change the war where we're seeing a lot of missiles coming in all over the country, over the last several weeks from Russia?

POMPEO: Yes, yes. Martha, this is -- this is a big deal. It's something frankly, in my judgment, should have been done a long time ago.

You describe it exactly right. It is the patriot defense systems. It is not an offensive weapon system. It poses no risk to Vladimir Putin or to Russia.

It poses a capability -- it presents capability to the Ukrainians to stop ballistic missiles, short range ballistic missiles, and some of the drones that are coming in, and aircraft as well.

That will protect civilian populations. That's what it was really designed to do. And we ought to have provided and we should continue to do it. We should make sure that the Europeans are doing their part, they have systems as well that are compatible with this. They should provide those as well.

But to refuse to defend the Ukrainian energy grid, to defend the Ukrainian civilians, 1000s and 1000s of have been killed by Vladimir Putin. This is something that is well past his time, and it will restore deterrence in a way that defensive capabilities always do.

MACCALLUM: You know, it reminds me, the NATO countries along that Russia border have had these missile defense systems.

And it's been a thorn in the side of Vladimir Putin. I remember back to the Obama administration, when he was talking to Medvedev.

And he said, you know, I'll have a little bit more room to negotiate on that after my election. And they were talking about defensive systems along the Russian border in NATO countries.

So, now, if we provide this to Ukraine, which is not a NATO country, I guess, you know, what -- how do you read into what Putin's response to that would be?

POMPEO: I hope his response will be rational, which would be to say this isn't an attempt to invade Russia. This was -- it was his original claim, Martha, was that Russia was under threat from NATO. That somehow we were attacking him.

This is -- this poses no threat to any Russian that's inside of their own borders. It's simply defense the Ukrainian population.

When I was secretary, we provided these weapons -- weapon systems to non- NATO countries too. We presented these weapons systems with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Emiratis, who were under aggressive threat from Iranian attacks, from ballistic missile attacks that had come in from Iran.

They were defensive weapon -- weapons. They provided deterrence, and that's what the Biden administration has missed.

We deterred Vladimir Putin for four years. He then invaded Europe on their watch. If you're strong, if you're capable of helping your partners, your allies who haven't asked for our soldiers, they just ask for our equipment.

If we do that, and NATO and Europe do their fair share, we can restore the deterrence that will matter not only to the Ukrainian people, not only to Europe, but to Americans as well.

MACCALLUM: I'm going to, you know, try to squeeze in two quick questions here. So, how effective will it be? Well, this stymie Putin's offence?

POMPEO: It's a very effective system. It's a decades on with multiple stages of improvement along the way.

I don't know what level of capability we will provide to them, but it's a good system that will stop a significant number of Vladimir Putin's attacks.

MACCALLUM: OK. And what about the extra U.S. military personnel on the ground? You heard that question? Are we sending troops to the -- to Ukraine?

POMPEO: Yes.

MACCALLUM: Obviously, this is a huge issue. And they're saying they might send troops to track the weapons.

POMPEO: Boy, there's lots of ways to check those weapons without sending American -- uniformed military personnel. I think that would be a mistake. I hope they'll choose not to do that.

Send what the Ukrainians have asked for. The tools to defend their own sovereignty and to defend Europe in the West.

MACCALLUM: Secretary Pompeo, thank you. Thank you, sir. Always good to see you. We'll see you soon.

POMPEO: Yes, ma'am. Thank you, Martha. Have a good afternoon.

MACCALLUM: You bet. You do as well. Thank you, sir.

So, the White House refusing to say whether President Biden will return the money that his campaign got from the crypto king, now known as SBF.

There he is being arrested in the Bahamas. He's now behind bars. They will not provide bail for him despite his pleas for leniency, in part for using tens of millions of clients' money to make those illegal campaign donations. So this is a very tangled web, Bret Baier next.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. MAXINE WATERS (D-CA): I'm so deeply troubled to learn how common it was for Bankman-Fried and FTX employees to steal from the cookie jar of customer bonds to finance their lavish lifestyles.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: So the White House so far refusing to say what President Biden plans to do with the campaign donations from FTX founder Sam Bankman-Fried who is now behind bars. He faces criminal charges after his crypto collapse apparently wiped out billions of dollars of investor money. The press secretary saying that federal law limits how much she can say about this from the podium. Watch this exchange yesterday.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KARINE JEAN-PIERRE, WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY: I'm covered by the Hatch Act from here. I am limited in what I can say. And I just can't talk to political contributions or anything related to that. I cannot speak about it from.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: (Inaudible) in his opinion, though.

JEAN-PIERRE: I just cannot speak to this from here. Even his opinion, even his thoughts about the contributions, donations.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: So is that a legitimate, transparent response? We're going to talk to Bret Baier about that in just a second. But first to justice correspondent David Spunt live in Washington. Hi, David.

DAVID SPUNT, FOX NEWS JUSTICE CORRESPONDENT: Hi, Martha. As you and I speak, Sam Bankman-Fried is in a Bahamian jail. He'll be there until at least after February 8th because the judge decided he is a flight risk and denied him bail. The jail itself, Martha, the subject of a report by the State

Department who accused the jail of being infested with maggots, rats and insects, other brutal conditions. This was in a State Department report last year might that make Sam Bankman-Fried pushed to be extradited to the US sooner or even pushed for bail so he can head back to his Bahamas estate perhaps.

Well today on Capitol Hill, celebrities who once supported FTX spoke about the future of the crypto industry. Listen.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KEVIN O'LEARY, FORMER FTX SPOKESMAN: We need to get to the bottom of what happened with FTX but we can't let us collapse causes to abandon the great promise and potential of crypto.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SPUT: Martha, federal prosecutors say Sam Bankman-Fried took tens of millions in customer money, turned it around and donated it to Republicans and Democrats to gain influence on Capitol Hill. The majority of the money did go to Democrats but Republicans also received some of that money.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. LEE ZELDIN (R-NY): You can find a good charity out there that can do good with the money. But ultimately you have customers who are trying to be made whole.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SPUNT: And Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, a Democrat from New York, called on politicians from both sides of the aisle to do one thing if they received Bankman-Fried's money.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ (D-NY): And I do believe that the rightful place if anybody needs to make decisions about that in the future. I do believe that the rightful places for that money to be returned to the defrauded investors.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SPUNT: But, Martha, it's not that easy to find out where the money actually came from. Forensic auditors have a lot of work to do ahead of them to find out if the donations actually came from Bankman-Fried because according to authorities, other names were used to funnel some of that dark money. And those forensic accounts have to find out if that money was originally in the accounts of FTX clients. It's complicated, Martha.

MACCALLUM: Boy, is it ever? David, thank you very much. Let's bring in a "Special Report" anchor Bret Baier there. Bret, good to have you with us.

There's a new report today from the Washington Post. It says that 51 Democrats received money from Sam Bankman-Fried or funds related to Sam Bankman-Fried, 10 GOP members received that money as well. Here's a soundbite of Sam Bankman-Fried talking about why he donated to Republicans in dark money venues. Watch this.

(BEGIN AUDIO CLIP)

SAM BANKMAN-FRIED, FORMER CEO, FTX (via phone): Reporters freak out if you donate to a Republican because they're all super liberal. And I didn't want to have that fight, so I just made all the Republican ones dark.

(END AUDIO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: You know, one of the big questions here, obviously, Bret, is, you know, the -- did the money influence decisions that were made by Congress in terms of how they would regulate this industry?

BRET BAIER, FOX NEWS ANCHOR: Yes. It's the biggest question. Maxine Waters is one of those who obviously chairs that committee. There are, again, more than 60 federal offices we're talking about here, candidates. And you also have super PACs who received money, more of them leaned liberal or democratic, less, you know, in the middle or Republican. But the super PACs, you know, can have a lot of influence in campaigns. And all in, it's more than \$40 million. So that's not chump change, right behind George Soros as far as the biggest donors on the left at least.

So what does this get you? What does that bring to the table? And for the White House press secretary to use the Hatch Act in questions about what is President Biden going to say, about this about political contributions going from this guy who has now lost billions of dollars. This is an act that goes back to 1939 that you can engage in political activity, but the way that she talks about it from the White House podium is much broader than the Hatch Act is designed for. And I think they're trying to not answer questions using that answer, and I'm not sure that it holds up.

MACCALLUM: Yes. It seems like it should be a fairly easy question to answer. You know, there's a judicial processes playing out. We don't know whether or not there's money -- there is money that can be returned. He says he's got about \$100,000 left in his bank account according to what he has found.

So, you know, and I wonder, Bret, what the processes of figuring out whether or not there was influence on policy. Because the regulators looked the other way from this company, right? And so, can you tie any of these donations to decisions that were made by these members of Congress because of these donations?

BAIER: And that's really the investigation that's ongoing. I had Congresswoman Ann Wagner on from that committee, and she said they need to keep on digging. She was not one of the politicians that received money or contributions. But she also put a lot of onus on the SEC and Gensler, the chair, because there was zero regulation. And in fact, the charges that are going against Sam Bankman-Fried have to do with contributions because there's so lack -- such a lack of regulation that was in place for this entire industry, this entire investment portfolio.

MACCALLUM: Yes. And that obviously served him well for quite a long time. That gig is up at this point. And there's going to be some egg on faces as well, it appears, besides his. Bret, thank you very much. Great to see you as always. We'll watch Bret tonight in "Special Report." We look forward to that.

So another new poll hands Florida Governor Ron DeSantis a commanding lead when it comes to which Republican voters will want to see on the ticket in 2024. Kellyanne Conway and Doug Schoen next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: Florida Governor Ron DeSantis says that he is launching an investigation into the government's handling of the whole COVID-19 vaccine program. The Republican governor saying that he's asking the state Supreme Court in Florida to convene a grand jury to probe how the efficacy and side effects of the vaccine were presented to the public.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

RON DESANTIS, FLORIDA GOVERNOR: I mean, if you take mRNA shot and the way to view it is, OK, what are the benefits and what are the drawbacks. And it seems like our medical establishment never wanted to be honest with people about the potential drawbacks.

MACCALLUM: Governor DeSantis says it is against the law in Florida to mislead and to misrepresent the efficacy of a drug.

So speaking of Governor DeSantis, he is talking former President Trump again in a potential 2024 showdown winning by 14 points in this new poll from the Wall Street Journal among likely Republican primary voters. DeSantis has an even bigger lead more than 20 points in the survey that we showed you just yesterday. That one was from USA Today and Suffolk University polling.

With that we bring in Kellyanne Conway, former senior counselor to President Trump, president of KA consulting and a Fox News contributor, and Doug Schoen, former adviser to President Clinton. Two great pollsters with a lot of experience in this. So, Kellyanne, I'll start with you. What do you think of these polls?

KELLYANNE CONWAY, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: I'm not surprised at all. I think Ron DeSantis has had a monster year. He's done a great job in Florida. And people see him as having a very bright future, including me. And I think Donald Trump put himself out there, even though he's banned from social media and parts of the Democratic Party is not society.

Look, I like the fact that we have two people we're talking about here, who are both anti-establishment risk takers, keep their promises. And also, you know, our people who were not the ones that the cognoscenti wanted. You know, both of them beat people in their respective primaries, Martha and Doug, who are the odds on favorites. So I appreciate that.

I mean, I would say I don't want to haggle over too much of the science but we are pollsters that sample size of 267 likely voters. I had many more people at my wedding than in that entire poll. I'd like to see some larger sample sizes. But, look, I want to say this, Donald Trump, ironically, benefited from something that

may be hurting him a bit right now. He benefited from the fact that he was able to break through and stop this nonsense of the Republican Party of having our nomination process be a carnation or a consolation, nominating the person who lost to the person who won. That may be hurting him right now with Ron DeSantis coming up.

One thing that strikes me in the polling, though, is that Ron DeSantis is doing much better among moderate voters and voters in the Republican Party, Martha and Doug, who call themselves somewhat conservative. That surprises me because I don't think that he presents himself and doesn't want to be seen necessarily as a moderate. I think his exchange with Laura Ingraham last night was quite eye opening and remarkable on many levels. Not exactly moderate.

The other thing in the polling just quickly, is Joe Biden did not get a big bump out of these midterms. I'm very surprised to see those disapprovals back up and majority of Democrats don't want him to run, and 47% say because of his age.

MACCALLUM: All right. Let's look at the USA Today-Suffolk. This is a head to head between Biden and Trump, 47 Biden, 40 Trump. And then against to DeSantis, Biden loses 43 to 47. Doug, your take?

DOUG SCHOEN, FORMER ADVISER TO PRESIDENT CLINTON: Yes. Look, to put it bluntly, Trump is sinking, DeSantis is surging, Joe Biden's worst nightmare is Ron DeSantis. He believes he can beat Donald Trump even with the very low approval ratings that Kellyanne rightly speaks up. There was no bump for the Democrats in the midterm. It was a repudiation of Trump and Trump candidates.

I think DeSantis is ideally positioned now. We all know that front runner early on, particularly those that are untested have a long way to go. In a multi candidate field, anything could happen. But right now, I think it's fair to say Ron DeSantis is the odds on favorite to be the Republican nominee and potentially the next president of United States.

MACCALLUM: Well, it all seems so far away and then it doesn't, right? And then the month start moving very quickly and everybody is gearing up. So, you know, this -- you said, basically, Kellyanne, how the former President Trump bucked the trend. There were all these people who were longtime well-known names in the Republican Party who everybody thought, you know, we're likely to be the nominees. So this time you've got, you know, Glenn Youngkin, Mike Pompeo, Nikki Haley, Mike Pence. I mean, you could have another very broad field here. I'm going to ask you to interview Governor Youngkin down in Richmond tomorrow. Your thoughts on how viable these other candidates really are?

CONWAY: Well, look, I think they're all presidential timber. I think on the Democratic side, they have some presidential woodchips right now, thinking they should run against Joe Biden. Here's what's going to happen. The Republicans are going to have a large primary, and the winner will emerge with far less than 50%, maybe 40% of the vote.

The Democrats who want a primary and don't want Joe Biden aren't going to have much of one. He may have one or two contenders from the left. But remember, Martha, until you're under these klieg lights, look at what Chris Christie did to Marco Rubio on that debate stage in New Hampshire in 2016. Look what happened on Michael Bloomberg in a matter of 60 seconds with Liz Warren making just easy work of him in less than a minute, and predict -- very predictable question.

So I think with Donald Trump, the one thing he's got going for him he's done the job before, but the thing is going for him every time something happens, people say that doesn't surprise me. It's Donald Trump. People are going to be very surprised when they get to know some of these candidates. I predict that because it always happens with every candidate. Sound about any particular they'll say, I didn't know that about him. I didn't know she felt that way.

MACCALLUM: Right.

CONWAY: So I think that people are always on a blind date with candidates they don't know well, and eventually the doorbell rings and you have to answer the door.

MACCALLUM: Quick final thought, Doug, just a couple seconds here.

SCHOEN: Yes. I think we're a long way away from getting to the marriage ceremony with Ron DeSantis. We're past the initial date but we're still in the getting to know one another face but as a Democrat, my fear is DeSantis not Trump.

MACCALLUM: Interesting. Thank you very much, Doug and Kellyanne, great to see you both as always.

So coming up, the shocking story of an attempted carjacking gone horribly wrong, and it left a 77-year-old grandmother stabbed to death inside her gated community.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MICHAEL BOWLES, SON OF ELEANOR BOWLES: I think this the crime issue in this country is so much bigger than Buckhead, it's so much bigger than Atlanta. This is happening everywhere. And I will say she did feel safe, and she did and that's not unique to Buckhead. It's I think most of us feel safe in our homes, and what we want to explain to people or hope people understand is that none of us right now are as safe as we think we are.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: So late this afternoon we're hearing dramatic new details about the attack on House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's husband as the suspect is in court. A police officer testifying that he saw David DePape smash Paul Pelosi in the head with a hammer at the couple's home at Nancy Pelosi and Paul Pelosi's home in San Francisco. That happened back in October. Speaker Pelosi was in Washington at the time. Prosecutors played a recording of DePape telling police that he planned to hold Speaker Pelosi hostage and break her kneecaps.

No cameras in court so we cannot play any of that out for you. DePape has recently has pleaded, I should say, not guilty to state and federal charges. He's behind bars with no bail. Police say that he told them he was on a "suicide mission" and planned to target other politicians as well.

And a suspect accused of stabbing a grandmother to death near Atlanta may have robbed a nearby liquor store hours before the attack. Police say they found the 77-year-old woman's body inside her garage in what they're calling a carjacking gone wrong. Correspondent Jonathan Serri live in Atlanta with the terrible details of this story.

JONATHAN SERRI, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Yes. Terrible indeed, Martha. Yes. And this case has everyone in shock because it really rattles our sense of security. It happened in a gated community in Atlanta's upscale Buckhead community. 77-year-old Eleanor Bowles, a loving grandmother and active member of the community, was found fatally stabbed in her garage. Police believe it happened when she walked in on a man trying to steal her Lexus SUV. They arrested 23-year-old Antonio Brown who has a prior criminal record and had allegedly robbed a liquor store just minutes before the woman's death.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BOWLES: I think most of us feel safe in our homes. And what we want to explain to people or hope people understand is that none of us right now are as safe as we think we are. And, you know, maybe if enough people learn about this story, maybe we can all do something about it.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SERRI: That's Michael Bowles, the woman's son. He says that Atlanta police and the detectives investigating this case have been absolutely fantastic. But he says that society as a whole needs to do more to prevent these crimes from ever occurring. He says that society needs to find better ways to intervene with repeat offenders before their crimes escalate and become deadly.

Family and friends have set up a GoFundMe site in Eleanor Bowles' memory to just keep a face on this crime to keep her in the public eye. And also all of the funds raised in this GoFundMe site will go to one of her favorite charities, the Atlanta Humane Society.

MACCALLUM: Jonathan, thank you. Yes, there are so many carjackings all over the place now. And it's kind of no surprise that if you walk in on it, something like this could happen. Terribly tragic and it's happening everywhere. Jonathan, thank you very much.

So that's THE STORY for today. Thanks for being with us, everybody. We look forward to seeing you back here tomorrow. Tomorrow I'll be live in Virginia for a sit down with Governor Glenn Youngkin, a potential 2024 GOP contender. Look forward to that. We'll see you then. Have a great afternoon.

END

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SE News; International

HD **50 Years Since Astronauts Last Walked the Moon; U.S. Set to Give Ukraine Patriot Missile System; Pilot Shortage; FTX Scandal; Federal Reserve Hikes Interest Rates Half-a-Point; Interview With Sen. John Cornyn (R-TX)**

BY Nate Foy, Dan Hoffman, Connell McShane, Hillary Vaughn, Jackie DeAngelis, Peter Doocy, Neil Cavuto

WC 8,140 words

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LP

NEIL CAVUTO, FOX NEWS ANCHOR: After the surge in illegal crossings, is the White House action coming? Maybe.

We're one week away from Title 42. Expiring, and now we're hearing the Biden administration may have a plan to cut down on the number of migrants traveling here on foot. Maybe fly them here instead? I kid you not.

TD

The read on what Texas Republican Senator John Cornyn thinks of that. The same senator just sent a letter to the president demanding he extend Title 42. What is he hearing back? We will ask him.

Welcome, everybody. I'm Neil Cavuto. And this is "Your World."

And so much going on today, FOX on top of actually two big surges today, the one at the border you're going to be hearing a whole lot about in just a second, but first to that other big surge in interest rates, the seventh rate hike this year, another half-point today.

Now, in case you are keeping track, we have gone from essentially zero percent interest rates not even a year ago to around 4 percent right now. And the reason why stocks were hit today is because the Fed chairman, Jerome Powell, didn't get any sign that he's easing up. We will keep you posted.

Now to that other worrisome surge at the border, and Peter Doocy at the White House with more -- Peter.

PETER DOOCY, FOX NEWS WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT: And, Neil, if there is a finalized plan here at the White House for what happens after Title 42, officials here aren't even telling Democrats in the Senate about it, because a group of Democrats in the Senate wrote a letter to Alejandro Mayorkas asking him to fill in some details about the plan.

And he never wrote back.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. JON TESTER (D-MT): We sent a letter very similar three weeks ago that said, hey, where's your plan? We never got a response back.

QUESTION: Would you ask them to wait?

TESTER: I think that, if they don't have a plan, then they need to wait to end.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

DOOCY: So there's this bipartisan concern because, as more migrants cross illegally, the U.S. has been using Title 42 more and more and more.

So there's this other bipartisan letter that says: "DHS is almost completely reliant on Title 42 to control migration from Mexico and the Northern Triangle. The vast majority of Mexicans Guatemalans, Hondurans, and Salvadorans encountered by U.S. Border Patrol along the border in October 2022 were expelled under Title 42, rather than processed under Title 8."

The administration is also now reportedly figuring out if they can entice some migrants to stay away from the Southern border by letting Venezuelans, Nicaraguans, Cubans and Haitians apply for asylum in their home countries, then fly to the U.S. That is according to a report in The Wall Street Journal.

It is entirely unclear if that would work. But officials are also warning of a big problem if this administration doesn't do something.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ROBERT ALMONTE, FORMER U.S. MARSHAL: Right now, the floodgates are open. Title 42 is lifted, you're going to see the dam break.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

DOOCY: And, oftentimes, when there's going to be a big policy announcement, at least one that officials want to highlight at the White House, we will get a heads-up a few days out, but so far no heads up -- Neil.

CAVUTO: Peter, I'm just curious, is the administration feeling the pressure from Democrats like Tester and others who are saying we got a problem here?

DOOCY: Neil, there's no urgency when it comes to this issue. Everything is, oh, well, Title 42 is going to end because a court says that it has to end, and we will fill in some details about what happens next.

But what happens next has to happen by next week, or else there's going to be this vacuum. And there's a report today in The El Paso Times that there's a huge group of migrants waiting on the other side of the Southern border because they know that it's possible a rule change could benefit them.

There's also an item in The Wall Street Journal that says that the feds are preparing for up to 20,000 migrants a day. That would be more than double what they are seeing right now, which has for the last couple months been historic highs; 20,000 a day is the reason that the administration here is also reportedly asking for more than \$3 billion in funds.

The people are going to keep coming, and they have got to do something with them, either let them in or kick them out. But nobody in town seems to know.

CAVUTO: Amazing.

All right, Peter Doocy, thank you very much.

Brandon Judd, the National Border Patrol Council president, is very worried that there's a flashing green light right now for anyone who wants to get into this country. And it's going to flash ever brighter and louder in the next week, especially when 42 goes away.

That's your big concern right, Brandon?

BRANDON JUDD, PRESIDENT, NATIONAL BORDER PATROL COUNCIL: It is.

And when you look at -- when we talk about the dam breaking, let's be clear. The dam has already broken. But what we're talking about when it's completely and totally flushing across the border, when you look at a typical month, we should be apprehending somewhere between 1,000 to 1,500 people a day.

Our resources are stretched when we apprehend 2,000 people a day. We're already at 8,000. We can expect to see -- by January, we can expect to see between 10,000 to 12,000. And then it can just go up from there.

What that means is we just won't have any agents at all patrolling the border. And when we don't have any agents patrolling the border, that means the cartels have complete control of the entire border. Right now, they have control of certain stretches.

And with those stretches, they have been able to get more of their drugs into the United States than in the history that we have ever seen. And more of our citizens are dying because of these drugs. We can expect more deaths if this administration doesn't do anything.

But what's frustrating is, is, there is absolutely no plan. Mayorkas was on the border yesterday. He did not talk about a plan. If they had a plan, they can implement it now. They don't have to wait until the expiration of Title 42. They can do it now. But that clearly shows that there is no plan.

CAVUTO: Well, one idea we bounced about -- and The Wall Street Journal was reporting this -- I don't know if it was an outbreak plan or just an idea there -- to fly migrants through and past the border.

What do you -- what do you hear that?

JUDD: That will get struck down. That's absolutely illegal. You can't do that. You can't parole somebody into the United States from already outside of the United States.

They actually have to come to the United States to do that. So, look, that's just not a plan.

(CROSSTALK)

CAVUTO: Well, how have they done it in -- I'm sorry, Brandon.

How have they done it in the past? I'm sorry to interrupt you there. Just a clarification.

JUDD: Well, you have to give to somebody a visa.

(CROSSTALK)

CAVUTO: When they have flown migrants all over the country, how did they do that?

JUDD: Well, that's when people are have already been in the United States. They already crossed into United States illegally.

CAVUTO: Got it.

JUDD: The only way you can fly somebody into the United States is if you grant them a visa. So I don't know if they're planning that.

But, if they do that again, all you're doing is encouraging more illegal immigration. And that's what we're talking about. We're talking about illegal immigration, not legal. Nobody is opposed to legal immigration. We are opposed to illegal immigration.

CAVUTO: And we should point out, legally, we let a million-and-a-half people get green cards in this country. We're certainly never short on our generosity here. But there are rules. And then there's what's going on with your scene with your men and women every day, Brandon.

So let's play this out. The Title 42 expires in a week. Then what?

JUDD: Then you just have nobody in the border, because Border Patrol agents are going to be doing a job that they were never supposed to do.

Border Patrol agents are not supposed to be in the asylum process. We're supposed to be enforcing the laws. Asylum is not supposed to be an illegal process. But because an illegal act is committed first, we then have to take them into custody. When we take them into custody, then we're stuck doing the entire gambit of the paperwork that is involved in everything.

And that pulls agents out of the field. So, again, Title 42 ending, if there is no plan, if we don't do anything right now, then we're just not going to have any agents in the field patrolling the border.

CAVUTO: Incredible.

Brandon, you're a patient man.

Brandon Judd, the National Border Patrol Council president.

We will keep an eye on that.

Also keeping an eye on interest rates. In case you're counting, the Fed just lifted rates today to the highest a key rate has been in about 15 years. And here's the thing. The markets knew that was going to happen. In fact, they were bidding prices of stocks up. Then Jerome Powell started talking.

I can play this like a record. It's so consistent. He talks, stocks tank. Why is that?

Jackie DeAngelis on that -- after this.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAVUTO: All right, this is a FOX News, well, chart alert.

I love charts. I want to show you this one on the left of your screen, if you can look at that one closely. Stocks were merrily running up today in advance, fully expecting a half-point hike in interest rates, seventh rate hike by the year, by the way. They were expecting it, didn't get bummed out about it.

Then Jerome Powell started talking, the Federal Reserve chairman hinting that there are more of these to come and we're not out of the woods. If I had a dime for every time I have seen a chart like this, well, I have a lot of dimes, because it almost always happens.

Every time we see a rate hike, even those expected, and stocks run up, he starts yapping, investors start selling, and wouldn't you know, that's exactly what occurred.

Jackie DeAngelis on that, what she makes it.

Jackie, what happened?

JACKIE DEANGELIS, FOX BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT: Hi, Neil.

Well, it's so interesting. That chart really is very expressive. And you and I had spoken on the Business Channel just before the decision came out and we saw the market up 200 points. And then, as you said, Jerome Powell starts speaking, this decision comes out that was largely anticipated, and we go into the red there, closing about 142 points lower today.

So this is what investors heard. And this is what came out of the statement and what we heard from Jerome Powell. They heard modest growth next year. They heard more hikes will be needed. They heard unemployment has to get to 4.6 percent, so people are going to lose their jobs. They heard inflation is declining at a slower rate than projected. It's at 7.1 percent right now, a lot of people not celebrating that.

And they also heard that the Russian war on Ukraine is adding some pressure to inflation and we're not sure how long that's going to last. So you take all of these things together, and the market is trying to calculate, are we going to get the soft landing we so were hoping for?

And that's why stocks retreated today, because a lot of people are uncertain about that.

CAVUTO: You know, you have to wonder, Jackie, whether he risks overdoing it.

Now, I know he's the only game in town. The government spends money like crazy. He's trying to rein it in with these rate hikes. I get it. I get that. But there have been a lot of hikes here. We have gone from zero to close to, what, 4-plus percent. It's going to go still higher after all of that.

And you have to wonder, at what point do you risk toppling the economy?

DEANGELIS: I think it's a great question, Neil.

And I think it's even a hard one for him to talk about or to decide, because he said that the future is uncertain next year, whether or not we head into some sort of recession or how deep that recession would be. And it's difficult, because, as he raises rates, you don't actually see the effect of it for several months afterwards.

And so finding that Goldilocks balance is extremely difficult. It is not an easy job ahead of the Fed. But, having said that, you look at how the consumer, the American consumer has been reacting consumer. Consumers are still out spending money. They are taking it out of savings. They are putting it on credit cards. In some states, people are still receiving checks to help them combat inflation. So all of that activity continues to be stimulative.

And so what he has to do now is raise rates high enough to get people to say, oh, my goodness, certain things are just too expensive for me. And I'm going to have to sit it out.

CAVUTO: Yes, that's the big worry. And then you have a slowdown. Then you have something potentially worse, a recession.

Jackie, I know you're too modest to start bragging about this. But in less than about a month's time, you have got a brand-new show you will be hosting, along with Brian Brenberg and Taylor Riggs coming to join us from Bloomberg TV on FOX Business, "The Big Money Show." It will be on at 1:00 p.m. on FOX.

Do you ever wish that show kicked off today on a big day like this?

DEANGELIS: Oh, sure.

And, listen, I think that we're going to have a great time not only covering news of the day, but breaking news as well. And I think the three of us combined, me, Brian and Taylor, we have all different areas of expertise that are going to come together to really break down what's happening in the markets and what people need to know that's going to impact them at the kitchen table, Neil, because so many of our viewers write in about that, right?

Part of it is stocks, but part of it is the overall economy...

CAVUTO: Yes.

DEANGELIS: ... and some of the hardship that they're facing and how they can prepare for that, how they can navigate it. That's what our team is going to hopefully bring.

CAVUTO: I have no doubt you will. But, man oh, man, I knew you when, Jackie. I knew you when.

Good luck with this.

(CROSSTALK)

DEANGELIS: Oh, I knew you. And I just want to say, said it on the Business Channel, but thank you so much. Working with you has been amazing.

And, Neil, you have been such a mentor to me, whether you realize it or not. Thank you.

CAVUTO: Well, you better start looking for better mentors.

(LAUGHTER)

CAVUTO: But I'm so proud of you. I'm so excited for all of this. But watch that Brenberg guy. Just watch him. That's all I'm saying.

(LAUGHTER)

CAVUTO: All right, we have a lot more right now, including the back-and-forth over Sam Bankman-Fried.

Remember he was this billionaire wunderkind and everyone was sucking up to him and stars and celebrities were all rallying around him? Well, now you know he's in a Bahamas jail. Now you know that, if he's guilty of all these things the government is throwing at him, he could be in jail for the rest of his life.

It's a back-and-forth that knows no bounds.

And doesn't Hillary Vaughn know it following the drama on Capitol Hill -- Hillary Vaughn.

HILLARY VAUGHN, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Hi, Neil.

Well, celebrities are used to the spotlight, not necessarily the hot seat, but one celebrity that was a paid endorser of FTX's crypto exchange was found -- testified here on Capitol Hill, because lawmakers are looking for answers from FTX's star-studded Rolodex of celebrity endorsers that FTX founder Sam Bankman-Fried shelled out millions to.

There's a class action lawsuit targeting the famous faces who got paid to endorse FTX including Tom Brady and Gisele, Steph Curry, Shaq, Larry David, and Kevin O'Leary, who was on Capitol Hill today.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. SHERROD BROWN (D-OH): Crypto doesn't get a free pass because it's shiny and bright or because venture capitalists think it might change the world or its TV campaigns were witty and featured famous people, especially when so many consumers are at risk of losing hard-earned money.

And that's before we even consider how crypto has ushered in a whole new dimension of fraud.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

VAUGHN: O'Leary says he was paid \$18 million to be a spokesperson for FTX. He had about \$1 million invested in FTX, including in \$10 million in tokens held in FTX wallets.

But everything, he says, is gone. And he says he tried to get answers from Sam Bankman-Fried about where it went.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KEVIN O'LEARY, "SHARK TANK": I simply called Sam Bankman-Fried and said, where is the money, Sam? He said he had been refused access to the servers. He no longer knew. I said, OK, let's step back. This is a simple case in my mind of, where did the money go?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

VAUGHN: Neil, it may be a simple question, but clearly a complicated answer, as lawmakers are still waiting for a chance to grill Sam Bankman-Fried, who is currently behind bars in the Bahamas -- Neil.

CAVUTO: All right, thank you for that.

Hillary Vaughn following all of that.

Well, in the meantime, you have probably heard all this fuss and probably lived experience at the airports. There is a shortage of pilots. And airlines are having a devil of a time finding pilots. Well, one is going so far as to maybe start training their own future pilots.

Connell McShane on that.

Hey, Connell.

CONNELL MCSHANE, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Hey there, Neil.

It's an interesting solution. And that's what Frontier Airlines hopes they have come up with, a solution to a problem that has really been plaguing the entire industry.

We will tell you what it is when we come back live from Denver, Colorado, in just a moment.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAVUTO: Hard to believe, 50 years ago today, the last man who walked on the moon left the moon, and not a human being has returned since.

Gene Cernan was that last man. And his daughter is here to remember that mission.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAVUTO: All right, who needs an MBA, when you can spend the same amount of dough, roughly, to become a -- well, a commercial airline pilot?

It's being toyed with.

And Connell McShane is watching it up close and personal in Denver, Colorado -- Connell.

MCSHANE: Yes, the thing is, Neil, this pilot shortage is a real thing. And we have been talking about it for months and months.

Frontier Airlines has come up with this cadet program. You don't need any experience to join.

I want to introduce you to a young man we met here named Bryce Dietz, 25 years old. And speaking of an MBA, he had studied finance when he was in college. He got a job right out of school. He was working at a private equity firm, told me he made over \$200,000 working there last year.

The problem? He was miserable.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BRYCE DIETZ, FRONTIER PILOT CADET PROGRAM STUDENT: If I was going to take this chance now and kind of take a leap to go into a completely different industry, this was -- this was the time to do it.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MCSHANE: Now, Bryce had a model to make that change in his uncle.

His uncle was an accountant years ago, and he didn't like his job, so he made the switch, and now he flies planes for Southwest Airlines.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DIETZ: He made it sound -- and, truthfully, it's a very interesting job. So, he's like he's got the best office every day. He said his worst day in aviation is better than his best day in accounting.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MCSHANE: So, here's Bryce now training to follow in his uncle's footsteps, flying planes, using simulators like the one you're looking at, an ATP Flight School, which partners with most of the major airlines in training their pilots.

Well, after about two years, the simulators get bigger, and they look and they feel just like a real life Airbus A-320. It's pretty cool stuff. We even had a chance to try it out for ourselves.

And the Frontier CEO, Barry Biffle, we're talking to him. And he says these cadets can make pretty good money as soon as they complete the program.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BARRY BIFFLE, PRESIDENT AND CEO, FRONTIER AIRLINES: It's around \$100,000 a year the first year, and that steps up pretty quickly thereafter.

And then we're in the luxury position of, within three to four years, you upgrade to captain. And so you move to the captain scale, which is typically significantly higher, as much as double what you earn as the first officers.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MCSHANE: And you get to fly a plane like this for a living, which isn't bad to a guy like Bryce. That's why he wanted to make the career switch.

The whole thing, the program costs about \$90,000. But Frontier will chip in with a stipend, and, even more importantly, with a job once you graduate in an industry that is desperate for these pilots -- Neil.

CAVUTO: All right, Connell, thank you very much for that.

Connell McShane.

So, on paper, it sounds good. And we do need pilots.

But count Dan Hoffman, FOX News contributor, former CIA station chief in Moscow, a little bit worried and no doubt remembering 9/11.

Dan, that's your worry, right?

DAN HOFFMAN, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: Yes.

Look, CIA officers, those who serve in our intelligence community, they're used to looking at the glass kind of not just half-empty, but maybe just completely empty. So we're paid to think about the worst that could happen.

And we know that the hijackers on 9/11, that many of them attended over a dozen flight schools, and learned how to fly the aircraft that they used brutally to murder 3,000 people that day. Following 9/11, Department of Homeland Security has taken measures to try to eliminate that vulnerability.

But I'm quite sure that the Congress will be looking very closely at this in the new session.

CAVUTO: And I'm sure -- and maybe I'm taking a leap here, Dan, there's a screening process for who can take advantage of this.

But you would like -- you would like to see something like that, right?

HOFFMAN: There is a screening process.

TSA implements what's called the Alien Flight Student Program, where anyone who is interested in taking piloting lessons has got to be vetted and approved by the Department of Homeland Security. Now, how well that works, and whether there's a bureaucratic backlog, those are issues, I think, again, that oversight will need to address.

CAVUTO: But taking a look at the terror risk right now -- and I know you worry about this all the time. I liked how you were saying that your job is almost more or less to look at the glass as virtually empty. It's a good position to take, because we live in a scary world.

The terror threat now vs 9/11, how do you see things?

HOFFMAN: I think we are more at risk today than we have ever been to terrorist attacks.

I know we have greater capabilities to deal with terrorists. But we left behind a terrorist state in Afghanistan. And then one -- the lesson to learn from 9/11 is that we can't allow terrorists safe haven to plot and plan against us. And that's exactly what Al Qaeda and ISIS have right now in Afghanistan. It's a terrorist state.

And we don't have the capability that we once had, when we were in country to detect those threats and eliminate them, preempt them before they're visited on our shores. That's the threat with the shortest fuse, the one which I think would keep up our intelligence and military professionals on an all-too-regular basis, unfortunately.

CAVUTO: So, to repeat my point, Dan, do you see anything like what we saw, even the type of attacks we saw on 9/11, again?

HOFFMAN: I think that I certainly wouldn't rule that out. And I think that's got to be the concern for us is, look, the terrorists still have us in their crosshairs.

They still want to strike us, whether it's in the region in South Asia, the Middle East, or here in the homeland. And make no mistake, our intelligence and our military professionals every day are doing everything they can to prevent those sorts of attacks. But we are vulnerable.

And we need to look at all of the places where we might be at risk and do something about it. And, again, it's better to stop those threats way out left of boom, overseas, before they land here on our shores. And, again, that, I think, is a legacy of this administration that future generations will be dealing with.

And, right now, there's no good answer for it. And I would just say with a high level of confidence that we are more vulnerable to attack than we ever have been. And I am praying that we're able to change our policies and find the capability to stop those attacks before more of our citizens are injured or killed.

CAVUTO: Wise words. And keep worrying, Dan. We appreciate that, because not too many are these days.

Dan Hoffman following all of that.

Meanwhile, back to the border in this country and signs, with about a week to go before Title 42 ends, that we're not ready for it. The administration says that it does have a plan for when that happens.

Texas Senator John Cornyn wants to know what it is. He's next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAVUTO: All right, a week from today, Title 42 ends, and a lot of those migrant cases adjudicated now on the southern side of the border start getting re-adjudicated on our side of the border.

Count John Cornyn, the Texas senator, very worried, especially as he has not heard as yet a plan from the administration as to how to deal with all of this, even though we're told, Senator, that a plan is out there.

Do you know what it is?

SEN. JOHN CORNYN (R-TX): Well, I guess it's a secret plan, Neil.

We have been asking not just this week, not just this month, but for months now, because the administration has been using Title 42, the COVID public health title, to expel people from the country, not all of them, but some of them, about 70,000 in a given month out of the 230,000 or so that showed up at the border.

And they have demonstrated no willingness to use other tools, like expedited removal, to remove people from the country. So this is a big flashing green light to anybody and everybody from anywhere around the world. If you can get to our Southern border, you can probably make your way into the United States.

And it's dangerous. And it's chaotic. And it's creating a lot of hardship for border communities in Texas, but also danger across the country, particularly when it comes to the drugs that come across.

CAVUTO: Well, apparently -- and you would know far better than I, Senator -- that it's galvanized many south of the border from Mexico to all points south, in Central and Southern America, that the green light will be back on, not that it hasn't been on for a lot of folks anyway, if this all goes away, and a surge is expected.

Do you agree with that?

CORNYN: Well, folks who look at and think about coming to the United States can watch television.

They can call or talk to friends and relatives in the United States. And they know what's going on. And they know that, right now, the open border policies mean that, if you show up at the border, you're going to be able to make your way into the interior, probably never to be reporting to a judge or anybody who would make a decision whether you have a legitimate claim.

But here's something I think the Biden administration misses. If you go talk to the Border Patrol, they will tell you they're detaining people from as many as 150 different countries. And these are people we have no real records on. And many of them -- some of them turn themselves in, admittedly. Others seek asylum. Others are economic migrants.

But there's a large number known as the get-aways -- or got-aways, I should say, from Border Patrol. We don't know what they're -- what they're up to, whether they're just smuggling drugs, whether they're criminals who are worried about being arrested and want to bypass the Border Patrol. We don't know who these people are.

But if they coming from 150 different countries, some of which are countries of particular interest to our national security teams, that's -- that should worry them. But, apparently, the Biden administration doesn't care.

CAVUTO: Now, we do hear the administration is kicking around -- and this figure is all over the map, so forgive me, Senator -- \$3 billion to \$4 billion to prepare for this, again, for Title 42 presumably expiring a week from today, as planned.

But do you know what that money would be used for?

CORNYN: Well, we need money for and plans to detain people who are coming across the border, who are making claims for asylum.

And then we need to get those claims decided by appropriate authorities, and those who don't qualify be returned to their -- to their home country. But we shouldn't appropriate just blindly money to facilitate the continued -- continuation of the current open border policies.

Secretary Mayorkas has said the border is secure. Anyone with two eyes and two ears can know that's not true. But this is the mind-set that they have. So I'm not convinced they would use that money appropriately to enforce our laws or deter people from coming into the country illegally.

CAVUTO: We're learning, separately, Senator -- this just came into our newsroom -- that the administration is suing Arizona over that state's installation of shipping containers as border barriers.

I know I'm just throwing this at you, but that has been an issue where they felt that it was totally unnecessary for Arizona to do that. Your thoughts?

CORNYN: Yes.

Well, physical barriers do play an important role. But Border Patrol will tell you they need the technology and they also need the human beings. It's hard to recruit good people to serve in the Border Patrol, particularly when they're the objects of ridicule and criticism by the Biden administration, when they are just simply trying to do their jobs.

But most of them, they're frustrated that they're not able to do the jobs that they signed up to do as a law enforcement officer. But I don't blame the governor in Arizona, Governor Ducey, or Governor Abbott or any other border state for trying to do what they can in the complete absence of any federal support to try to stem the flow of this humanitarian and public safety crisis.

CAVUTO: Are you worried -- Senator, you said at the outset you have not heard back from the administration just what their plan is.

We're hearing as well now, of course, in light of this Arizona development, now suing over that shipping container border barrier thing, they're not talking to, obviously, those in power there. We even saw Senator Tester, a Montana Democrat, concerned that they're ignoring a crisis here. I'm paraphrasing.

Are you worried the administration isn't listening to anyone on this?

CORNYN: Well, I see that some of our Democratic colleagues, when they come around to reelection time, then they express some concerns.

But they have done nothing to get the Biden administration to live up to its responsibilities. And I worry that this -- this has been coming for a long time, Neil. I remember talking to the Border Patrol chiefs probably about a year ago, as they knew that, eventually, Title 42 would go away, and they wanted some plan in its place.

And now here we are, as you point out, a week before that's going to happen, and they have -- maybe they have a secret plan. Maybe the secret is they have no plan. We just don't know.

CAVUTO: Yes.

Senator Cornyn, always good seeing you. Thank you very much, sir.

CORNYN: Thank you, Neil.

CAVUTO: Senator John Cornyn.

In the meantime, I want to take you to Kyiv, Ukraine, right now, where you will find our Nate Foy, amid a promise on the part of United States to provide still more key defense systems -- Nate.

NATE FOY, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Hey, Neil.

Yes, residents here in Kyiv woke up to a drone strike this morning, we went out to check out the damage and speak to the impacted residents. We will show you that next and another major Russian strike today.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAVUTO: All right, you remember by now the administration's response to how long does the aid keep coming for Ukraine, and the administration saying, well, as long as it takes.

It proved that yet again today, promising still more advanced systems that help the Ukrainians fight the good fight, with no indication how long that fight could go on. But it is getting nasty.

Nate Foy has more right now from Kyiv, Ukraine -- Nate.

FOY: Hey, Neil.

Well, with the current air defense system here in Ukraine, 13 Iranian-made Shahed drones were shot down early this morning, according to President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. Now, the real intense fighting continues in the south and the east. But this morning was just another example that Kyiv is still a target of Russia.

Take a look.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Three times, rocket explosives explodes near me. First time, it's scared. Next, you -- it's common.

FOY (voice-over): Hours after a Russian drone strike in Kyiv, authorities survey the damage, as neighbors began fixing their broken windows from the attack.

(on camera): Right here, you see fragments of that Iranian drone or one of the 13 Iranian drones that were shot down this morning, some damage here in the city of Kyiv.

Right here behind me, you see a government building that has sustained major damage. You see the corner of it. It's been completely taken out. Windows have been blown out as crews are now assessing the damage inside. And we also have crews here removing debris from high up in these trees as a result of this morning's airstrike. Also, four apartment complexes here in the city of Kyiv sustained damage.

(voice-over): To the southeast, new video shows a Russian missile strike at the regional administration building in Kherson, a city recently taken back by the Ukrainians, this as the U.S. considers sending Ukraine the Patriot missile defense system, on top of previous technology already in the country.

BRIG. GEN. PATRICK RYDER, PENTAGON PRESS SECRETARY: We were able to very quickly work with our allies and partners to get air defense capabilities there, to include NASAMS. And we have got six more on the way.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

FOY: Neil, we're learning tonight an American has been freed from Russian-occupied territory as part of a prisoner exchange.

A Ukrainian official says they received 64 Ukrainian soldiers. It's not known how many Russian soldiers were handed over as part of the deal.

We will send it back to you.

CAVUTO: All right, Nate, please be safe, my friend.

Nate Foy in Ukraine.

And where were you 50 years ago today? What if I told you it was the final day two human beings let the surface of the moon and to this day never to return?

Gene Cernan was the last man to walk on the moon. He had been hoping for years to get back there.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: You know he was the last man to walk on the moon?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Yes.

CAVUTO: Last man to walk on the moon.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: You're kidding.

(CROSSTALK)

CAVUTO: His wife told him he should have stayed there.

(LAUGHTER)

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CAVUTO: You look up at the moon. Your kids look up at the moon. Your grandkids look up at the moon.

You were the last human being to touch that surface. How does that make you feel?

GENE CERNAN, FORMER NASA ASTRONAUT: Humble.

And I don't often -- I don't look up at the moon and say, man, what a great guy you are. You're the last guy who went to the moon.

I do it when you ask me.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CAVUTO: You know, I'm blessed in this job to talk to a number of remarkable people.

Tops on that list has to be Gene Cernan, the last human being to walk on the moon. He left the moon 50 years ago today. And we have not returned since. But we are planning to through Artemis and a host of other programs, to revisit that, and to make it look like the lunar base that Gene Cernan always wanted.

I'm honored right now to have his beautiful daughter, Tracy Cernan, with us right now, who was 9 years young when her dad was walking and I think trying to sing on the moon, Tracy.

It's an honor to have you. Thank you for coming.

TRACY CERNAN, DAUGHTER OF GENE CERNAN: Oh, thanks, Neil. It's great to be here today. Thank you.

CAVUTO: I always remembered.

I had so many a times interview and talk to your father of the many years. And he did not like being called the last man to walk on the moon. He would always say, the most recent. We're going to get back there. We will get back there.

So how do you think he would feel about all these plans today?

T. CERNAN: Well, I think he'd finally feel it was about time. Yes, he always used to say never wanted to be the tail on the dog.

(LAUGHTER)

T. CERNAN: And so he thought we'd be there a lot -- a lot sooner than now. But I think he'd be quite excited about the young men and women they have selected to get there.

And I think he'd be really, really proud of what's finally happening, although it's many years too late.

CAVUTO: Tracy, how was it growing up with an astronaut dad? He was on multiple missions.

And did you sense the magnitude of that?

T. CERNAN: No, I didn't.

I grew up with a lot of other astronaut children.

CAVUTO: True.

T. CERNAN: And so, if it wasn't him flying to the moon, it was someone else.

But the -- it was always -- I used to always say that my dad traveled a lot on business. He just went a little farther than then some people did on his business trips. But it was -- it's pretty amazing.

CAVUTO: But, you know, Tracy, you were a special kid, though. You were a special kid, though, because not too many could brag about their dad leaving their initials on the surface of the moon.

Tell me a little about it.

T. CERNAN: Oh, no, I know it. And that was 50 years ago today when he -- when he did that, and, yes, very -- a very special moment and a very wonderful memory that I have.

But he decided that he was going to just as a last-minute thought, when he was placing the camera on the rover to take off -- to take the picture of the liftoff, he just leaned down by the tire and wrote my initials there. And when he told me that afterwards, you think, boy, that's special.

Even though he was doing all that important stuff, his family was still in his mind. And we were still at the forefront of it.

CAVUTO: You know, I was thinking of that, Tracy.

You could look up at the moon today, because that has not changed. Everything is exactly as it was 50 years ago, including your initials, young lady. How do you feel about that?

T. CERNAN: That's pretty great.

(LAUGHTER)

T. CERNAN: The only regret is, we don't have a picture. And we don't have a picture of his last footprint.

Those were his two -- two regrets that, in hindsight, he wished he had taken.

CAVUTO: Right.

T. CERNAN: But, yes, pretty -- it is pretty special. Maybe, one day, we will we will get a picture of them, because I know they will still be there.

CAVUTO: There is a picture of Tracy's Rock, and a rock that was later named for you by Alan Bean, the Apollo 12 astronaut, because that -- he later on became quite the artist and wanted to memorialize that in your name.

Can you tell me a little bit about that?

T. CERNAN: Yes, Alan Bean called dad over and said: "Hey, Gene, if you had written Tracy's name on this rock, will you show me how to do -- how you would have done that?"

And he had -- Alan with his artwork had a glove, and dad put it on, and did that in his studio there. And Alan painted that rock the way dad would have written my name on it. And it did become a very, very famous painting.

CAVUTO: It most certainly did.

Tracy, I don't know if you know this. I think you do. Your dad made me an honorary astronaut, when, as a kid, I wanted to become one. And the famous story there -- famous at least in the Cavuto household -- is, my parents took me to the Space Center to see what capsules were really like.

I quickly discovered how tiny they were and how cramped they were. And I realized then that my astronaut dreams were gone. I had set to my sights on anchoring. And your father famously said: "You made the right decision for the country."

(LAUGHTER)

CAVUTO: But I always got a kick out of that, because he's always ribbed me: "I could fit in my capsule, Neil."

T. CERNAN: Yes.

Well, I know -- you know, I look at that capsule down in Space Center Houston now that he sat in, and I think back, how did they do that for that many days, and not moving?

CAVUTO: I don't know.

T. CERNAN: It was pretty small.

CAVUTO: Yes.

You know, when you look at -- he always said that he liked unmanned missions. He thought going to Mars and beyond, one capsule that had just at the time I talked to him to passed Pluto, the furthest planet in our own solar system, that he thought those were crucial, but there's nothing like a human being seeing and reacting to this.

That was important to him, wasn't it?

T. CERNAN: Oh, it was very important to him.

You just don't get the same perspective that you do as a human perspective, from even pictures or from anything else. I think the human perspective and what he and all the other astronauts that have been into space have been able to portray to people when they come back and their opinions and their views and what they actually saw is really what is true to the heart and very great to tell other people and experience other people.

CAVUTO: You know, Tracy, if you think about it, he was a modest man by nature. He could never believe the attention that he got, being one of a dozen human beings to have walked on the moon.

And I saw it myself at his funeral mass, and you and your family were so kind enough to let me deliver a eulogy on your dad's behalf. And I remember Russ Levenson, the pastor at that church, saying at the time: "I think Gene would be surprised he packed this church."

So he was a kidder about that, wasn't he? And he -- but he did see himself differently than others did.

T. CERNAN: Oh, yes, he did.

He never -- he only had one dream. And it was a fly aircraft carriers off - - jet planes off of aircraft carriers and be in the Navy.

CAVUTO: Right.

T. CERNAN: And never in his wildest dream did he think he would fly to the moon.

And I think dad felt indebted to be able to tell people what he experienced, and that he wasn't any different than anyone else. And I think that was part of his history as being very charismatic and being able to inspire young children and people everywhere, that you just go out and dream what you want to do, and dream the impossible.

And you never know. You will be able to do it. And he never felt himself any more special than anyone else, although we did. And, as you -- you know that packed house sure did.

CAVUTO: I know it well. I know it well.

T. CERNAN: He was a very special individual.

CAVUTO: As are you, Tracy, good stock, good DNA, wonderful family, a kind family, hearkening back to a time we had a mission, and we completed it, and now a new mission.

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HD **Drag Star With Dubious Social Media Visited The White House; Boxing Legend Mike Tyson Talks To Tucker; Why Were Intel Veterans In Twitter's Top Ranks; Brazilian Police Reportedly Shoot At Indigenous Protesters After Arresting Their Leader; FTX Founder Arrested Day Before Congressional Hearing**

BY Tucker Carlson, Trace Gallagher, Marc Siegel

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LP

JESSE WATTERS, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: I came up with it. I'm Watters and this is my -- I came up with my -- you think I stole my tagline? I'm not many.

Tucker is up next, and always remember, I'm Watters, this is my tagline.

TD

TUCKER CARLSON, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Good evening and welcome to TUCKER CARLSON TONIGHT.

Time for a confession, right off the bat. There were times, we will admit it, back in the dark ages of cable news, when we'd milk a single news event for weeks. In some cases, and we're talking to you, OJ Simpson, for months and months and months. There just wasn't that much going on. So, you couldn't afford to waste a good story.

That is not the problem we are having these days. The problem now is the opposite of course. There's too much going on and some of it is terrifying.

In just the last week, China signed a \$50 billion trade deal with Saudi Arabia, our old ally, signaling an end to America's longstanding global petro empire. That's not a small thing.

Vladimir Putin, meanwhile, who runs Russia, once again threatened to launch a nuclear war on the West. Then Wall Street began laying off large numbers of people, which is not something you can ignore in an industry whose business it is to predict the future of the economy.

And at the same time that was happening, the wealth of the average American household dropped to one of the lowest levels ever recorded. The CDC responded by trying to resurrect face masks because that will help.

Sam Bankman-Fried got arrested. And then the Mexican drug cartels, which run the largest human trafficking operation since the Transatlantic Slave Trade ended, now officially have control of our southern border.

So it's been a busy week. In fact, more has happened in this past week than happened during two full terms under Bill Clinton -- a lot. So if you're running our country right now, you'd be staying up all night, every night, trying to figure out how to respond.

But that's not what the Biden administration is doing. Not at all. This afternoon, as the old global order collapses to be replaced by God knows what, the Biden people decided to hold a drag event at the White House. Just in case you were wondering if those comparisons to Weimar were overstated, no, they're not overstated.

The occasion for this celebration was the official signing of the Respect for Marriage Act, which the White House tells us will codify gay marriage into law. But wait a moment, you wonder. Wasn't gay marriage

legalized by the Supreme Court way back under Barack Obama? Well, yes. But they've legalized it again. It's double legal. And you know what that means? That means it's time to hear from Lady Gaga.

[VIDEO CLIP PLAYS]

CARLSON: Dance party at the White House. Hurray. What's been legal for years is still legal. Break out the White Claw.

Cyndi Lauper was there, of course, to celebrate. Cyndi Lauper is going to be 70 years old this spring, meaning she's lived in this country a long time. But until today, until this afternoon at the White House, under the beneficent gaze of Joe Biden the Great, Cyndi Lauper informed us that Americans were not allowed to love each other.

Until today, love was banned. But Joe Biden changed that. And now we're free to love. Watch this and see if you don't choke up just a little.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CYNDI LAUPER, SINGER: Our families are validated and because now we're allowed to love who we love, which sounds odd to say, but Americans can now love who we love.

And bless Joe Biden and all the people that worked on this for allowing people not to worry and their children not to worry about their future.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: Wait. Didn't that happen 10 years ago? Well, we checked. That tape is from today. The party was at the White House today, and that means that somewhere, our nuclear disposal friend, Sam Brinton, formerly of the Energy Department, is sitting atop a pile of stolen women's clothes, cursing the fact that airports have security cameras in the baggage claim. Damn those cameras.

If only Brinton hadn't been caught, this would have been like Christmas for him. He could have spent the morning in Cyndi Lauper's dressing room trying to purloin a new halter top. Talk about a missed opportunity.

Thankfully, Marti Cummings was there to make up for it. Cummings is a drag star who like Sam Brinton, has a long history of unfiltered social media posts. "F the police," Cummings tweeted in 2020. "Yes, we want to defund the police. Yes, we want to abolish ICE. No, we won't settle for anything less. We'll continue to fight for this to happen." That sounds like Antifa. Well, yes.

And to prove it, this year, Cummings promoted something called "ACAB Coffee," using the all but copyrighted slogan of Antifa.

So here you have an Antifa-friendly drag queen dressing up like a woman and promoting violence. Talk about a perfect White House guest. And, of course, Cummings is also interested in children in all the wrong ways.

Cummings once tweeted this: "The kids are out to sing and suck," to perform fellatio. Oh, okay. Cummings then added, "Anyone who thinks drag isn't for children is wrong."

Cummings had posted this picture with a child writing, "He wants to perform with us next year."

So if you think it's unfair to accuse people of being creepy with kids? Not that unfair, actually. Kind of fair. Here is Cummings at a TED Talk in 2019.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MARTI CUMMINGS, DRAG ARTIST: I learned how the power of a 20-second video can change your life, how a 20-second clip can change your entire worldview. Take a look.

That's me and two-year old, Brody at my drag brunch in New Jersey.

So, a lot of times families come to the brunch because they're not able to go to a regular drag show late at night. And it's a time that kids can experience drag.

Because of "Baby Shark," I was able to come to the Pilgrim House and do a series of kid shows. And I would ask the kids during these shows, I would say, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" And to my surprise, a lot of these kids said they wanted to be a drag queen.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: Yes, a lot of kids want to be a drag queen. So that's the guy at the White House today, but it's not really an anomaly. It was just a month ago the administration invited a guy called Dylan Mulvaney, that's a grown man who identifies as a walking stereotype of a little girl and he met the President.

So what's going on here? Well, multiple things of course. This is an effort to degrade the country, to make it into a joke. These are people striding through the hallways that once were the work area of, I don't know, Abraham Lincoln and Teddy Roosevelt and FDR. Whatever you think of their policies, these were serious men who stayed up late every night thinking about how to make the country better.

And now there's that guy, and a lot of people like that. And Cyndi Lauper. Celebrating gay marriage, which has been legal since the Obama administration. What is going on here?

Well, again, it's an effort to degrade the country, but as a political matter, it's a distraction. Offend you so much or mesmerize you so completely that you forget that there are multiple world historic crises unfolding at the same time, some of which the Biden administration caused, none of which it can solve. That's the point.

They have no idea what to do about the collapse of the postwar order, which is on display; or the continuing slow motion collapse of the American economy, which you feel because you're poorer than you were last year, and they don't have anything to say to you.

Even if they cared, they wouldn't have an answer. Here's a drag show. Welcome to Weimar.

Yes, what happens next?

But the point is, you lose any perspective about everything else real that is happening. This is a tactic, and it's not a new tactic, actually.

Joe Biden once recognized this tactic because if nothing else, he knows politics. Here's Biden in 2006 in a clip we were grateful to get, recognizing that complaining about gay marriage, whatever you think of gay marriage, is a pretty handy way for politicians to distract from their own failures. Here's Joe Biden.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOE BIDEN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: The world's going to Hades in a handbasket. We are desperately concerned about the circumstance relating to avian flu. We don't have enough vaccines. We don't have enough police officers.

And we're going to debate, the next three weeks I'm told: Gay marriage, a flag amendment, and God only knows what else.

I can't believe the American people can't see through this. We already have a law, the Defense of Marriage Act. We've all voted -- not, where I've voted, and others have said, "Look, marriage is between a man and a woman and States must respect that."

Nobody has violated that law. There's been no challenge of that law. Why do we need a constitutional amendment? Marriage is between a man and a woman.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: So he gets a pass because that was pre-dementia. He has no memory of saying any of that. Now, he is just a vessel for the ambitions of others.

But that was an interesting insight. People talk about stuff like this, particularly when it's not, strictly speaking, "relevant" because they don't want to talk about other things. And that makes it even more interesting that Joe Biden's handlers, 16 years later, are telling him to talk about gay marriage and drag shows. Anything to distract you.

And in fact, at today's Bill signing, just to completely pull your attention away from everything else that's going on, Joe Biden came out in favor of gay marriage -- of course, because it's been legal for 10 years -- and in favor of the genital mutilation of children. Here he is.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BIDEN: We need to challenge the hundreds of callous, cynical laws introduced in the States targeting transgender children, terrifying families and criminalizing doctors who give children the care they need.

We have to protect these children so they know they are loved, and we will stand up for them and say, "They can speak for themselves."

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: It's pretty interesting when you think about it. So this is a Bill signing, affirming the legality -- legalizing once again, gay marriage, which most people support in this country. Should people be able to get married if they love each other? Yes, they should. That's fine. Not that controversial a point at this stage.

But here's Joe Biden using that opportunity to promote gender-affirming care for kids. And of course, that means the sexual mutilation of children, cutting the breasts off 15-year-olds, sterilizing them for life with chemicals. That's what Boston Children's Hospital and many other hospitals have been doing. Puberty blockers. Have fun with osteoporosis when you're 30.

So why would Joe Biden be promoting that apart from the fact certain special interest groups want him to? Again, this was supposed to be about gay marriage. But here you have Joe Biden, President of the United States, purportedly pushing child sexual mutilation.

And then you have -- this is even weirder -- Kamala Harris out there talking about contraception. Really? Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KAMALA HARRIS, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: For millions of LGBTQI+ Americans and interracial couples, this is a victory and it is part of a larger fight.

The Dobbs decision reminds us that fundamental rights are interconnected, including the right to marry who you love, the right to access contraception and the right to make decisions about your own body.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: Now we're just confused. The right to buy contraception now. No one on this show is a legal scholar. But *Griswold v. Connecticut* came down in 1967, which affirmed, from the High Court, the right of Americans to buy contraception. That was 56 years ago.

Interracial marriage? Hmm, that's been legal for our lifetimes. No one's trying to make it illegal. Not one person is pushing to make that illegal. Not one.

So here you have Joe Biden and Kamala Harris affirming your right to buy the pill and marry someone of a different race, even though neither right is under attack by anyone. Why are they doing this?

Well, it's of a piece with their agenda recently. Remember, this is the same party that pushed through an Anti-Lynching Bill this year. Lynching. Was that on the list of major problems? Are there lynchings going on? Wasn't that already illegal? "No, we just banned it for the first time." Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. CHUCK SCHUMER (D-NY): The Senate succeeded in taking long overdue action by passing the Emmett Till Anti-Lynching Act.

Hallelujah. Congress has finally declared lynching a Federal crime.

HARRIS: The people of our nation deserve the protection of a Federal Anti-Lynching Law. Lynching is not a relic of the past. Racial acts of terror still occur in our nation.

BIDEN: Hate will not prevail in America. White supremacists will not have the last word. We cannot remain silent.

Silence is complicity.

Finally, after all these years, finally, we made lynching a Federal crime.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: After all these years? There are a lot of people who are for lynching, but we held off the pro-lynching lobby, and we got this through the Congress. We've improved your life. Really? Where are all these lynchings? Where all these racial acts of terror committed by White supremacists?

Search the Internet for them. You will see some racial acts of terror. Hard to find a lot committed by White supremacists. Any maybe. Where are the numbers on that? How many racial attacks by White supremacists have there been in the last couple of years? Maybe there've been a lot. We're not familiar with that. We're not aware that that actually happened. Pretty sure it didn't actually happen.

We do know that nooses have appeared in various places. Do you remember that? There was one at the construction site of Barack Obama's new presidential library? Maybe that's what they're talking about.

They offered a six-figure reward to catch the person who tied rope in a forbidden shape, but no culprit was ever found. How weird. Then there was that noose in the NASCAR garage. Then there was a noose around Jesse Smollett's neck. Is that the lynching they're banning?

The funny thing is, you know that's not real. And most people know it's not real. Why are they continuing to say this? Well, because as actual problems, real problems mount, and they have no answer and no solution, and they're trying to dodge culpability for creating those problems in the first place, they have to double down on fake problems. We're banning lynching. And no one laughed? There's not one person who is for lynching.

Bill Melugin and his team, speaking of real problems, just shot this new video of massive crowds of foreign nationals invading our country. Sorry, that's just true. Most of them are not from Mexico. They're from very, very far away across the oceans. And now they're in a Mexican border town across from Brownsville, Texas. And they're waiting there for Title 42 to end in eight days.

And when that happens, when the Biden administration drops that last piece of legal defense against invasion, it's going to be an overwhelming wave, of course. Maybe that's why they're bringing drag stars and Cyndi Lauper to the White House. Because they don't want to talk about, I don't know, the threat of nuclear war from Vladimir Putin?

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

RICHARD ENGEL, NBC NEWS: President Vladimir Putin, appearing to dash hopes of a diplomatic solution, warns the war will be long and that the risk of a nuclear conflict is on the rise.

But he quickly dialed back his language, insisting Russia would only use a nuclear weapon for self-defense, never first. It was more of a reminder than an overt threat.

The risk is increasing, he said, adding, "We haven't gone mad. We understand what nuclear weapons are. We are not going to wave it like a razor blade around the world. But, of course, we must proceed from the fact that we have it."

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CARLSON: So we're now at war -- a hot war, not a proxy war -- a hot war with Russia. American military personnel, lots of U.S. government employees are in Ukraine fighting that war with American weapons that you paid for. And the guy we're at war with just threatened to use nuclear weapons against us.

Now, whatever you think of that war, that's not a story? That's not bigger than banning lynching or legalizing gay marriage again, when it was already legal or legalizing contraception, which has been legal since 1967 or interracial marriage.

What? Talk about a head fake. Who's falling for this? Oh, everyone.

Chris Bedford is executive editor of the Common Sense Society. He joins us tonight. Hey, Chris. Good to see you.

CHRIS BEDFORD, RIGHTFORGE, FOUNDING PARTNER: Good to see you.

CARLSON: Maybe this is like a human thing where when really serious things start to happen. You decide to you know, rearrange the books in your bookshelf or something. But I've never seen more frivolous coverage of anything in my life than what we're watching now.

BEDFORD: It's looking more and more like late stages of Pagan Rome, where no one seems to have the answers. The Republican Party, by the way, doesn't seem to have the answers to the fact that globalization has hollowed out the American economy, that the wokesters have taken over corporate life, taken over sports, taken over Hollywood. The children have been attacked in their schools.

But the Democrats have become like Nero's Court where you just look to their and it's a grotesque theater to distract people. This was supposedly about the Respect for Marriage Act you were talking about.

What about gay couples or interracial couples who are represented by a man dressing up as a ridiculous stereotype of a woman and prancing back and forth? What about respect is about respect for marriage is persecuting Christians and people who refuse to go along with this Bill? That's what they're focused on.

And it seems to me their ideology stops a lot of the people in the White House from actually tackling what's going on at the border. They're so committed to what's going on in Ukraine, they can't even see nuclear war as it comes with them in the face.

So this handed over control to this pageantry in this woke children and this is what we're getting, and the American people are suffering and they're putting on this kind of theater.

CARLSON: I would even -- I would have respect, and I do have respect actually for people who disagree with me, but who are trying hard to arrive at the right answer, I mean, I think that's worth respecting. Effort is worth respecting. They're not even trying.

BEDFORD: No, they're pushing their own kind of theater here, and just like you said, who was this Lynching Act actually defending? What is this actually protecting? This is just not even really just a base card as much as it is simply a distraction.

It's been something that Joe Biden has done for years. He said on the campaign trail against Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan, milquetoast as you can get that the Republicans are going to put you all back in chains. But at the same time, no one in Washington is actually tackling what's going on, whether it's offshoring, whether it's the threat of China, whether it's the fact that we're engaged in the wrong theater, whether it's the fact that our borders collapsed.

The Republicans keep on saying things like, "My wall, we're going to put that back in place." "And we're going to read the Constitution on the House floor again," like Kevin McCarthy is pushing, but how does it actually solve the rot that we have here in this country?

People can tell, there's still a lot of good beating heart in the Heartland of America, there are good people who are ready to work on this, but in our capital cities, and Washington, DC, there's a lot of ugliness.

CARLSON: That's totally true. Everything you said is true. And there are great people, the best people in this country, and a lot of smart, dedicated, brave people and you hope one rises to the top, you really do in this next political cycle.

Chris Bedford, great to see you. Thank you.

BEDFORD: Thank you.

CARLSON: So Mike Tyson has been one of the world's most famous men for more than 35 years, but what is he really like? Well, he is not at all what you might imagine he's like -- he is really smart and insightful and he has led an unusually amazingly interesting life.

We had a very long conversation and part of it is next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: Mike Tyson is not the sort of person we generally interview on the show, he's not a political figure, he is not still boxing. Why did we talk to him? Well, because Mike Tyson has spent almost 40 years at the very pinnacle of American society.

Then, at the very bottom, he went to prison at one point, he has seen everything. And a lot of people who lead lives like that are destroyed by them. They become numb and insensible, particularly if they're boxers, but a rare few become wise, and fascinating, and able to communicate what they've learned and Tyson is definitely in that category.

So for a brand new episode of "Tucker Carlson Today," we sat down with Tyson, we began by asking him, what was it like growing up? Here's part of that.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

MIKE TYSON, FORMER PROFESSIONAL BOXER: I'm going to share with you, I am really proud of my childhood.

CARLSON: Yes.

TYSON: Yes.

CARLSON: But no advantages.

TYSON: Yes, my disadvantage, and my advantage.

CARLSON: What do you mean?

TYSON: My adversity inspired me to be more than what I truly was.

CARLSON: I believe that. So, you are inspired by Ali, then you go to a different reform school.

TYSON: Yes.

CARLSON: And they have a former fighter there who trained you. It's at the point when you realize you're going to do this for a living.

TYSON: Yes. But this is the thing, when I came there, I was in another facility on that campus. And I believe I have -- I don't want to say, I stabbed, but I had an altercation with somebody. So I came when he met me, I had handcuffs. And I'm rearrested. And I was a mess.

And so when the guys were talking me because they wanted -- they said, "Well, you're not a bad guy, because you did that." So he said, we have an ex-fighter, Bob, he is still -- you need to meet him and probably get you in shape. And I said, well, I would love to meet him. I met Muhammad Ali. I've seen Muhammad Ali once.

And then this guy knocks on my door. I heard you wanted to talk me. What do you want. I said, I want to be a fighter. Everybody wants to be a fighter. You show you want to be fighter. Let's just see how your conduct is.

And I went from being a really jerky nasty guy to becoming an A student.

CARLSON: Really?

TYSON: Yes, and then he started training me.

CARLSON: What was it about that? Was it the discipline that he imposed?

TYSON: Yes. I wanted to be a fighter so bad.

CARLSON: If you hadn't become a professional boxer, what would you have done?

TYSON: There is no doubt, I was going to be a fighter.

CARLSON: You knew you're going to be -- at what age?

TYSON: Thirteen, fourteen.

CARLSON: And four years later, you were.

TYSON: Seven years later.

CARLSON: Seven years later. So when did you meet Cus D'Amato?

TYSON: When I was 12. I was at the facility and the guys drove me to me meet him. Because I mean, my level in there, I was a trustee now.

CARLSON: Yes.

TYSON: I was a good kid, a trustee, so I can go to get -- I can get off campus and go visit them.

CARLSON: What was he like?

TYSON: Total disciplinarian.

CARLSON: Yes.

TYSON: Take no [bleep].

CARLSON: Yes.

TYSON: Yes, that's what I needed.

CARLSON: Not a weak man.

TYSON: No. No signs of weakness.

CARLSON: Yes.

TYSON: No sign of the weakness. If you didn't conduct yourself the way he conducted yourself, you're not Italian. He's going to tell you what Italian is. If he thought like, one of those guys, Pauly Shore, what was Pauly name? The Italian guys, the Jersey Shore guy. He is not Italian. They cuss, they are Italian. They are not Italian.

He would say something like that. You don't conduct yourself -- Italians, they conduct themselves like this. He's not Italian. He was that kind of guy.

CARLSON: Amazing. So when --

TYSON: Nothing playful. Nothing playful.

CARLSON: Nothing playful.

TYSON: We had the team put behind his back. There is nothing playful about him.

CARLSON: And you liked that?

TYSON: Hey, you know what? I loved it. Someone cared about me.

CARLSON: Yes.

TYSON: And if anybody says something to me, he'll punch him in the face and attack him.

CARLSON: It is so interesting. It goes to your voice.

TYSON: You don't say nothing about me. He will attack you physically.

CARLSON: Were you ever afraid?

TYSON: Of course, I was afraid of him. I'm afraid of him now. Like that. He made sure you were afraid of him.

CARLSON: And you liked that?

TYSON: Listen, we were on the third floor. Right? When we're talking crap. Yes, we're talking about girls and stuff. And then we hear -- he is coming and everybody stopped talking.

And then comes and says, hey, I heard everybody laughing from the first floor. I come up here, you're not laughing. I want to know what's funny. I want to laugh, too.

Then nothing because we were just talking. You know, because he was just always on my back. We're talking about girl. That's what you do, girls -- you get off your minds. You have to get girls off your mind. How are you going to be champion just thinking about girls. Okay.

So we never told him what we were thinking about. Because we're not doing nothing, we are just here up here talking. That's all.

He goes, about what? I want to know. You guys are all laughing. The whole house is up in cheers laughing. I want to know I come upstairs, you stop laughing. Why? Because you know, the guys, they are scared to death to say anything.

CARLSON: But I mean, you're like twice as big as him.

TYSON: No. That don't mean nothing. He had the system of intimidation down like a science.

CARLSON: Really?

TYSON: He had it down to a science.

CARLSON: Really?

TYSON: He had it down to a science.

CARLSON: How? What were his methods?

TYSON: Not talking. You know, Cus; language is language without making sounds.

CARLSON: Yes.

TYSON: So you understand when he is mad or not.

CARLSON: Look at that.

TYSON: Oh, look at me. It's a little boy, so happy to be with this guy. Look how big I am at 14.

CARLSON: You're 14 there?

TYSON: Yes, look how big I am.

CARLSON: Yes, you're enormous.

TYSON: Baby Huey.

CARLSON: So did he -- and I pardon my bad memory. Did he live to see you become --

TYSON: No, he died the year before, not even, less than a year.

CARLSON: Really?

TYSON: Eight or nine months, something like that.

CARLSON: And he, by that point, I think was your guardian, right?

TYSON: Yes. My mother signed me over to him before she died.

CARLSON: How old were you when she died?

TYSON: Sixteen.

CARLSON: Sixteen. So he wasn't just your coach, he was your mentor and your legal guardian.

TYSON: Yes, if I didn't make it in the fight, I still had to be here. You know what I mean? I think that's the -- I had to get a job, I still had to be there.

CARLSON: Did you live with him?

TYSON: Yes. I think I was 13.

CARLSON: You lived in his house.

TYSON: Yes.

CARLSON: That's so different.

TYSON: Hey, listen. Anytime I saw a white guy with was a Judge or a cop and he was a victim. And I come to this guy's house and this guy's house and this guy showed me love. And wow, love is powerful.

CARLSON: One of the reasons I wanted to interview you is because you're the author of one of my favorite quotes ever in English, which is "Everybody has got a plan until he gets hit in the face."

TYSON: A hundred percent, because people now, especially now, no one's going to fight -- people like talking now. They get on the stage, they get a YouTube and they start talking.

CARLSON: Yes.

TYSON: And that's why some people, some people are not made for handling criticism. They're just not made for them. Some people go off the deep end once you criticize them.

CARLSON: Yes.

TYSON: Some people just can't handle it, and some of the most powerful people in the world just can't handle it. They're not mature enough to handle criticism.

CARLSON: Have you gotten better at handling criticisms as you've gotten older?

TYSON: Yes, but mostly, yes, but it's still -- I think it can get even better. Sometimes I get in my head and think I'm somebody and then I'm easily offended. When I know I'm nobody, I could never be offended.

CARLSON: Boy, that is a deep insight.

Sometimes I get in my head that I'm somebody and I'm easily offended, and I remind myself I'm nobody and I'm not offended.

TYSON: Exactly, a hundred percent.

CARLSON: So if you, you know, if you're that well known and everywhere you go, people are sucking up to you and taking pictures with you. How do you remind yourself as you said that actually I'm nobody.

TYSON: Well, I don't know. God did this. I asked for this and this is what He gave me. It's not like someone gave me something I didn't acquire. I wanted this life. I prayed for this life, and I received it.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

CARLSON: When I think I'm somebody I'm offended, but when I remember, I am nobody I'm not.

There's a lot more in that vein. Tomorrow, Tyson talks about his faith, and his love of animals, really one of the most remarkable conversations we've ever had. And then he describes how he really felt about the men he fought in the ring over the years and will just give you a preview.

"I wanted to kill them." But you knew that.

Stay tuned for that. Absolutely worth watching.

So like a lot of people we always said that Twitter was a social media site. Then why were all these Intel agents working for Twitter? A lot of them? Could it be that Twitter was actually a propaganda tool and an Intelligence gathering operation for different governments? Possible. More on that next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: Let's say you were trying to staff a social media site. Who would you hire? Well, obviously since it's a tech business, you would hire tech people -- coders, software engineers to keep the place running. Then you'd hire an administrative staff because you had to, some lawyers, a caterer, a flak or two, maybe an interior decorator if you wanted HQ to look good.

But how many spies would you hire? Well, probably none. Spies have nothing to do with the mission of a social media company. They would not be needed and you wouldn't hire any opera singers either.

Yet for some reason, Twitter seemed to need an awful lot of spies. The upper ranks of Twitter we now know were absolutely loaded with people who once did Intel work for government agencies, at least 15 of these people and possibly many more. Most of them are hired in the wake of Donald Trump's election.

Now what were these people doing all day in what was supposedly a social media company? Well, that's the question, isn't it?

We know that James Baker came from the FBI. He has been accused of secretly censoring incriminating internal files before Elon Musk could release them to the public. Baker was fired for that. So that's some of what James Baker was doing at Twitter.

But how about Charles Smith of Twitter's Trust and Safety Department? Smith joined Twitter after working at US Cyber Command. Or how about Geoff Tokajer, formerly of Director of Naval Counterintelligence, what was he doing? Or Kevin Michelina or Doug Hunt? Mark Jaroszewski or Douglas Turner, Karen Walsh, Russell Handorf or Vincent Lucero -- all of these people once worked for the FBI as well. Their colleague Jeff Carlton came from the CIA. Patrick Conlin once worked at the NSA, and so on.

And it wasn't just American Intel officers who found a home at Twitter. The company hired foreign spies, too. In January Peiter Zatkó was fired from his position as Twitter's Head of Security. Reportedly, Zatkó lost his job because he complained about the level of control that foreign intelligence agencies had over virtually all of Twitter's operations.

According to Zatkó, there were operatives on Twitter's payroll from other governments, including China and India, and they had access to private user data. And those are just the details that we know about.

Elon Musk was asked recently how many former FBI agents are currently employed by Twitter? But he wouldn't say. It's all pretty weird.

Could it be the while the rest of us imagined that Twitter was a social media site, a place to vent about politics and sports and the Kardashians? Could it be that Twitter was actually maybe primarily a propaganda tool and Intelligence gathering apparatus for a variety of Intel agencies? Well, yes, that's possible.

And you can see why various governments would want access to the information that Twitter had. Keep in mind that Twitter's direct message, the DM feature functioned for many years as a kind of private text app for some of the world's most prominent people.

So if you wanted to know what high government officials really thought, if you want to know what well-informed sources, were telling reporters off the record, you would want to see those messages.

Did Twitter executives ever share those DMs, those private messages with anyone outside the company without a warrant? We strongly suspect that they did.

A proof, of course resides on Twitter servers, along with a lot else. Think about it. If Twitter has been functioning as the arm of government Intel agencies and clearly it has been, then its internal documents will contain information about all kinds of things, not just about the silencing of Donald Trump, not just about Tony Fauci's buffoonish lies about the COVID shot, no. Information about Big History shaping events, the sabotage of Nord Stream 2, for example. The supposed poison gas attacks in Syria, both of them.

The imprisonment of Julian Assange, why is he there? The theft of incriminating e-mails from the DNC. What was that story? the motive behind the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and much, much more.

In other words, Elon Musk now has control of the most significant trove of secret information ever to reside in private hands. So far, we have not seen much of it, and you have to wonder why we haven't. Let's hope that we do.

So Brazil held its General Election back in October, and there were a lot of concerns about whether the election was on the level. Were all the votes counted, for example? Was this a fair election?

But Brazil's top Courts banned any investigation or discussion of the topic, and now not surprisingly, Brazil is descending into chaos. Police are shooting at people.

[VIDEO CLIP PLAYS]

CARLSON: Matt Tyrmand is an investigative journalist who is one of the few in American media to cover Brazil. He joins us tonight with an update on what's happening there. Matt, thanks for coming. What is happening in Brazil right now and why?

MATT TYRMAND, INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALIST: Well, we are in Day 44 of continuous protests with millions of Brazilians taking to the street to exercise their constitutional rights, free assembly, free protests, as well as their God-given right that is absolutely enshrined in Brazilian's order and progress, its rule of law, but at the same time, the Supreme Court yesterday, they certified Lula's election that is akin to our January 6th, where we certified the presidential election.

And upon certification, with the protests continuing, the Supreme Court Justice, Chief Justice Alexandre de Moraes, who is head of the Supreme Court and the Subsidiary Court, the Supreme Electoral Court issued an arrest warrant for one of the protest leaders who happens to be an indigenous leader from the Amazon, the Xavante tribe, and upon his arrest, protests continued and then it actually erupt into violence.

And in 44 days, there has been no violence, no arson, no vandalism and you know how you know? Because you would have been reading all about it everywhere in the Brazilian mainstream press and even the global press, it has been peaceful and prayerful, and the people just want to be heard. They want to see a military audit done and the Supreme Court has blocked that, so they continue to protest.

CARLSON: The parallels are amazing. And so by the way is the information controlled by the social media companies.

Matt Tyrmand, thank you so much for that update tonight.

Well as if America didn't have enough drug problems, there is a new drug being sold apparently legally at gas stations in your neighborhood that's very serious and can have deadly consequences.

We will tell you what it is, next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: So it looks like Sam Bankman-Fried who was beloved by the financial press in the Democratic Party paid for a lot of media organizations like Semafor. They have orchestrated the biggest financial fraud in history. Now, he has been arrested in the Bahamas. There's just been a major development in that case.

FOX's Trace Gallagher as always has the details for us.

Hey, Trace.

GALLAGHER: Hey, Tucker.

Just weeks ago, Sam Bankman-Fried was a billionaire; now, he says he's down to just \$100,000.00. Still a Judge in the Bahamas denied bail saying that he was a flight risk. The Judge also wants Bankman-Fried to remain in the Bahamas until February 8th and Bankman-Fried's lawyers say they will fight US extradition.

Meantime the charges include wire fraud, bank fraud, securities fraud, and conspiracy to commit campaign finance violations after handing out tens of millions of dollars in illegal donations almost exclusively to Democrats.

In fact, Bankman-Fried spent \$39 million in the recent Midterm elections, second only to George Soros, and in 2020 SBF was directly and indirectly one of President Biden's biggest donors. But the White House won't say if Biden will return the campaign contributions.

White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre gave one of her standard answers. Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KARINE JEAN-PIERRE, WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY: So look, I'm covered here by the Hatch Act, limited on what I can say and anything that's connected to political contributions, from here, I would have to refer you to the DNC.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GALLAGHER: But as many point out, the President's opinion does not fall under the Hatch Act. Then again KJP has used the Hatch Act to remain silent on numerous issues.

We were supposed to hear from SBF today testifying before Congress, instead, he was arrested at the 11th hour. And former Federal prosecutors say the arrest does not make any sense because normally prosecutors want suspects to talk because they tend to indict themselves.

Clearly, somebody in a position of power did not want to hear what SBF had to say -- Tucker.

CARLSON: So he is arrested right before the testimony. Amazing.

Trace Gallagher, who you can see every night, midnight at "FOX NEWS @ NIGHT" and you should.

So America has a drug problem. No one in power wants to talk about it. The opioid epidemic alone has killed hundreds and hundreds of thousands of Americans.

Now a new drug that acts in some ways like an opioid is available legally at gas stations all over the country. It's being called gas station heroin. What is this exactly? And why is it legal?

Dr. Marc Siegel joins us to explain it. Hey, Doctor.

DR. MARC SIEGEL, FOX BUSINESS NETWORK MEDICAL CONTRIBUTOR: Tucker, listen. There's a \$46 billion industry in the United States for dietary supplements which are actually active chemicals. Yes, we have a pill popping society. Yes, doctors are responsible for a lot of it. But this stuff is over the counter.

One of them is called tianeptine, you're never going to hear that name, Tucker, it goes by ZaZa Red or Tiana Red. And you find it in a bodega or in a gas station or in a grocery store and it works on the opioid receptors in the brain.

It is supposed to be an antidepressant, but it works as an opioid, like heroin. And there's nothing that anyone can do about it. Now six States have banned this stuff. And by the way, people get addicted in the other States and they rush to the states for rehab, where other dietary supplements are available.

Where is the FDA? The FDA has been saber rattling on this and putting announcements up on their website and they know how dangerous this is, but they are not banning this, only six States.

People are overdosing. There's plenty of calls to Poison Centers. Doctors can do nothing about it. FDA must act, Tucker.

CARLSON: Yes, it is the least they can do. They owe us.

Dr. Marc Siegel, thank you so much for that update tonight.

SIEGEL: Thank you.

CARLSON: More news just ahead.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CARLSON: Some armed robber just hit jewelry stores, others banks, and still others set their sights a little lower. This man armed with a knife just robbed a McDonald's in the Bronx for Chicken McNuggets and cheeseburgers, which he then hid in his pants. Police say they're on the hunt for him and the now cold fast food.

Are they really looking for him?

How's our economy doing that people are stealing hamburgers? We'll let you decide. Not that it is funny.

Have the best night, despite everything going on the world, it is still a great country and the people around you are the best people most likely.

So we will see you tomorrow night.

And in the meantime, the great Sean Hannity awaits from an undisclosed location to take over.

SEAN HANNITY, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST, "HANNITY": I don't even know where I am. I don't know. All right, oh, good to see you, Tucker and great advice. Have a good night with the ones you love. Can't go wrong.

END

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HD **Feds Accused FTX Founder Of Wire Fraud And Money Laundering; Gov. Gavin Newsom Visits Southern Border; Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez's Climate Change Documentary Flops; AOC's Climate Change Doc Bombs At The Box Office; Fetterman The Fashionista? NYT Names Hoodie-Loving Senator To Most Stylish List; Enough Is Enough: Carey's Christmas Hit Drives Retail Workers Crazy; How Long Do You Wait To Wash Dirty Dishes?**

BY Dana Perino, Jeanine Pirro, Jessica Tarlov, Jesse Watters, Greg Gutfeld

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LP

SEN. JOHN BARRASSO (R-WY): That's the bed that he's decided to lie in.

NEIL CAVUTO, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Senator, thank you very, very much. I threw a lot at you there. I hope you have a Merry Christmas. Thank you again. Senator Barrasso.

TD

All right, so again, so much we don't know about this possible government shutdown. We'll explore tomorrow.

Here's the --

DANA PERINO, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Hello, everyone. I'm Dana Perino along with Judge Jeanine Pirro, Jessica Tarlov, Jesse Watters and Greg Gutfeld. It's 5:00 in New York City and this is THE FIVE.

All right, check it out. Check it out. You're looking live at Bahamas courthouse where disgraced FTX founder Sam Bankman-Fried could come out at any moment. He's facing the music finally for his alleged multibillion-dollar fraud.

The fallen crypto king arrested in the Bahamas and could be extradited to the U.S. Bankman-Fried indicted on eight federal criminal charges that may put him behind bars for the rest of his life.

They include wire fraud, money laundering and conspiracy to buy -- conspiracy to violate campaign finance laws. And that is in addition to the civil complaint filed by the SEC.

Prosecutors outlining their case accusing the former crypto CEO of trying to buy influence -- political influence with stolen money.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DAMIAN WILLIAMS, ATTORNEY FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK: All of this dirty money was used in service of Bankman-Fried's desire to buy bipartisan influence and impact the direction of public policy in Washington. It's so hard to compare these things. But I think it's fair to say that by any anyone's lights, this is one of the biggest financial frauds in American history.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PERINO: Lawmakers were supposed to hear directly from the former billionaire today on Capitol Hill. But obviously, that did not happen because he's there in the Bahamas, he just got busted hours before he was set to testify.

Instead, Congress grilling FTX's newest CEO about what happened.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: The FTX group's collapse appears to stem from absolute concentration of control in the hands of a small group of grossly inexperienced and unsophisticated individuals. This is really old-fashioned embezzlement.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: It's like everybody loved the exciting idea of a politically progressive, smart entrepreneur who is going to reimagine capitalism. I'm glad to see it's finally unraveled.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: What you have is a crypto Casino.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: I'm so deeply troubled to learn how common it was for Bankman-Fried and FTX employees to steal from the cookie jar of customer funds to finance their lavish lifestyles.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PERINO: Bankman-Fried's downfall turned into a media circus, the former billionaire just wouldn't stop talking to press outlets and giving interviews. Just yesterday, he was predicting this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Are you worried you might be detained if you stepped foot into the U.S.?

SAM BANKMAN-FRIED, FORMER CEO, FTX: I don't believe I would be but I haven't done a like deep dive into that. At some point that's something I have to think harder about.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PERINO: All right, Judge, the criminal complaint came out after the SEC complaint. And now he's in a Bahamian court, and he didn't go to Congress. What say you?

JEANINE PIRRO, FOX NEWS CHANNEL LEGAL ANALYST: Well, there's a lot of things. First of all, I've never seen the Southern District of New York act so quickly on a case this enormous in terms of the number of people that were defrauded, they say there are one million creditors. That is incredible. That is a huge fraud.

And so, you say to yourself, though, why would the southern district that takes months and months and months, especially in economic crimes moves so quickly?

Well, you could argue that maybe they were worried about he might abscond but at the same time, he was willing to testify.

And as any prosecutor knows, if you're going to trial, what you want more than anything is prior statements of a defendant. And this individual has testified for weeks on end and made incriminating statements, none of those statements will be inadmissible.

He swore to tell the truth. They are under oath. There is no Miranda required, there is no constitutional custody issue. Those statements are golden.

So, why stop him from testifying in front of Congress today? Because you don't want information to come out that's political.

Look, he was the number one donor to Democrat political causes. His mother apparently ran a major Democratic campaign fund. He wined and dined with political people trying to influence the regulators and make no mistake, he gave to Republicans too.

But I think that this was an attempt to literally shut down the truth because this is the one chance that the American people would have to hear from people in Congress saying and who did you give money to? And what committee are they are on and what did you expect from them?

And just one more thing, there were red flags all along. There was a guy by the name of Terry Duffy, who said this thing right in the beginning was fraudulent and he used -- he used money to invest for himself. He gave his girlfriend money, Alameda. Why is she not a co-defendant? Why? Maybe because they're trying to get her to testify.

But you know what? I don't think they need her to testify, he gave money to her, that money is now gone. You explain what you did with that money, you've got two at the top, you don't need anyone else as far as I'm concerned.

But the profits were commingled with political contributions, they were buying out the Bahamas, the real estate, and you know, the whole smell of it just stinks.

And in the end, there'll be conviction, he will spend his life in jail, shame on him and his parents who knows so much more.

PERINO: Interesting, Jessica, about the parents. I know that his parents are they are worried, that his legal fees will wipe them out.

Look, the kid -- well, kid, he's a man, but their child is the one who defrauded all these people and wiped them out.

JESSICA TARLOV, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CONTRIBUTOR: Potentially and there's this big mansion that he bought for them in the Bahamas that they say they don't know anything about and he was probably taking them for a ride the same way he was doing to everybody else, it was investing in this scheme, I guess, is what we have to call it at this point. You can't even say it's a company.

To the Judge's point, the southern district was very clear that this was an attempt to buy bipartisan influence. And if you want to blame someone about the fact that we don't know exactly which Republicans he gave to, we have two names, but the number of them, let's talk about Citizens United and how it makes it a system in which you can give through dark money groups, essentially unlimited money. And that's what happened there.

Two things that I find really interesting. One, what role does the government play in this? They want to regulate the crypto world. Was he trying to buy influence to make sure that crypto would never be regulated?

Second thing, we haven't seen someone talk about financial crime committed of this level by a millennial, someone who's addicted to being online. He was even on Twitter spaces yesterday, right? He's been giving interviews left, right and center. It's a completely different landscape for this.

Bernie Madoff, sure if he wanted to talk to someone in the press, he would say, hey, meet me at a dark diner somewhere, right? And I'm going to talk to you about what's going on. This kid has just been plastering it everywhere. So, it seems like it'll be a completely different dynamic in terms of the prosecution.

PERINO: Jesse, what good is a federal government in terms of regulations if this can happen to people? And you know, last time he appeared before Maxine Waters committee, she appeared to blow him a kiss at the end of it.

JESSE WATTERS, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: She didn't appear to, she blew it. I saw it.

PERINO: (INAUDIBLE) benefit of the doubt.

WATTERS: Well, Maxine Waters blew that kiss. That's why the Attorney General had to put out this fire. Because this guy was on a rehab tour. And every time he opened his mouth, he was humiliating the Democrats. He was humiliating Bill Clinton, the IRS, Wall Street, the SEC, everybody was in bed with this guy.

And for a month and a half, he went out and talked more than Fauci and exposed the code and the code is, I'm going to say whatever the left wants me -- wants to hear. And I'm going to shovel money down their throat, so they let me do what I want.

You're not supposed to talk about the code. It's a silent code. It's called greenwashing, woke washing, whatever you call it, and that blows up the whole system.

And it's kind of like bribery. And it's kind of like greasing politicians. But he put it out there way too graphically, so he had to go down.

He stole money from people, and then he donated it to the Democrats. So, Biden had to bust his second biggest megadonor, it was a pump and dump. He was pumping and dumping. But the Democrats pumped and dumped him. They legitimize him. He's got his company's name on arenas. He's up there with Bill and celebrities. Now, there's collateral damage. So, he went down hard.

You can see this fraud a mile away. Greg, and I talk about this all the time, whether it's Avenatti, whether it's Mallette (PH). Whether it's this guy, whether it's Sammy Sticky Fingers, his pension bags at every airport in the nation. It's a big advertisement for a scam artist, and we see it, but you can't say it because if you say it, you're a bigot. If you say it, you know like these types of people so you can't talk about it.

But and then the left, they don't want to hear it because they're getting rich off it and they're getting, you know, good press off of it. So, whatever.

Now he wants to get out of prison because they're not giving them a vegan diet. Listen, that's not going to get your bail reduced. He's a flight risk already. You have to have colon cancer or something like that because you don't like the food. Sorry, you're going to have to stay in jail with the some Bahamian would knuckleheads, whatever they're in for.

PERINO: Just two weeks ago, he was in front of a big New York Times audience being interviewed and the audience was laughing when Sam Bankman- Fried was making jokes about oh, maybe I shouldn't -- my lawyer said I shouldn't do this and they thought it was so funny.

GREG GUTFELD, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: How quickly the tide has turned, Dana.

PERINO: Yes, red tide.

GUTFELD: Yes. I just wish that whatever -- wherever he is right now, give him some long pants. I just have seen -- I've seen his knees more than I've seen my own, his big meaty hooks. You know, it's just like sitting there with shorts. I mean, he's slightly better dressed than John Fetterman. But I won't go that far.

The timing is suspicious, you know before he sings, he gets arrested. If he ends up dead in jail, we'll know one thing that he definitely swindled Hillary Clinton.

But, you know, there are these red flags. But one of the red flags, I'm sorry, we got to talk about how people look. You can judge a book by its cover, you brought up, never should have got a job.

I mean, this guy looked at him, he has the voice of a creepy windup doll. Have you ever listened to them? He looks like one of the forgotten Three Stooges. If he transitions, perhaps he could be on the view.

It's just a lesson and I'll reiterate what you said. It's a lesson for everyone. Think about the celebrities that sold this guy, well, they get sued. They should because they push this.

TARLOV: Tom Brady.

GUTFELD: Except for Tom Brady. He's an American hero. But anyway, it's like virtue signaling or compassionate investing is usually a cynical cover. And this is why my theory is that Republicans fall for this less than Democrats because we can't sucker people that know economics into a bad deal. I won't even be tricked into a good deal.

Like, I'm still not doing the 401(k) until I see -- until I see some real results.

PERINO: Your mattress must be really stuffed.

GUTFELD: Well, that mattress, it's getting up there (INAUDIBLE). Thank you William Devane (PH).

PERINO: All right, up next, the border crisis erupts again and California Governor Gavin Newsom, not President Biden is showing up to say he wants to try to fix it.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

GUTFELD: Yes, all the time Judge, people love this music, bar mitzvahs, weddings.

TARLOV: All happy occasions.

GUTFELD: All happy occasions. Eight days to go until Joe Biden unleashes total chaos at the border, up to 10,000 illegal migrants could arrive daily once Title 42 ends. And it's already started, the largest migrant caravan in history illegally crossed the Rio Grande into Texas.

And as usual, President Biden too busy to visit the border. But one slick haired Governor showed up, his name Gavin Newsom, go into the border to visit a state-funded immigration support center and releasing this clip on social media.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

GOV. GAVIN NEWSOM (D-CA): I just got back from Mexicali, which is on the other side of the border while I had the opportunity to meet with the governor and meet with some international humanitarian leaders, as well as many migrants from Haiti from Guatemala, and from parts of Mexico that are waiting for their asylum processing right here at the border. So, we're here now on the other side in Calexico.

And here just to get an understanding, a deeper understanding of what the world looks like pre-Title 42 and what it likely is going to look like in a few weeks post Title 42.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

GUTFELD: I think I just lost, what, about 45 seconds of my life.

Newsom also calling on his fellow Democrats to "take some responsibility and ownership over the border crisis before this system breaks".

OK, Dana, let's analyze the politics of this. He went there for a reason, not necessarily to solve the crisis, but to one up the man currently the White House.

PERINO: So last week, there was a big story about how Gavin Newsom told the White House, I'm definitely not running for president. And then, all he's going to do is like undermine him. He's like, I'm going to get to the border before Kamala Harris, or Joe Biden can get to the border, he's pretending that he's going to care, well, maybe he's going to care after Title 42 is gone, because then there's going to be even more.

But it'd be interesting if he would -- if he was a real -- if he was really interested in winning and actually solving something he should have gone and asked Governor Greg Abbott to join him, right? And have some sort of bipartisan show of effort here that they want to do that, but so he's probably running -- he's like, he probably doesn't believe that Joe Biden isn't running or he wants to be there just in case because he doesn't think Kamala Harris should be the nominee.

The other thing, I wanted to say about this is that Joe Biden's inaction on the border complete like walking away, has done the biggest disservice to the people. He said he wanted to help the most, the dreamers.

It's impossible to get something done in Washington to solve that problem if you have this kind of an image in one day. And the Democrats freaked out because there were so many migrants a couple of years ago, under Trump. They were mad because there weren't enough beds in El Paso. So, they got a 700-bed facility.

Well, what happens when 1,500 people come across in a day? Well, there's 750 people that are out on the street sleeping, and it's 35 degrees outside. And where's AOC? There's nobody crying.

GUTFELD: She said, do you want a documentary?

PERINO: And we're going to talk about that.

GUTFELD: How do you like that? Jessica, I'm perplexed. You have this Governor Newsom signing a bill allowing state I.D.s for undocumented or illegals. I thought expecting people to have an I.D. is racist. What say you?

TARLOV: I say it's not racist, that we can acknowledge the hurdles that some people have to get across, jump across whatever the right term is to get an I.D.

But even with Clyburn has talked about the fact that if you make it more accessible, and you expand the voting period to make sure that people work full-time jobs, multiple jobs, can make sure that they get to vote, that the I.D. --

GUTFELD: That is your illegal aliens.

TARLOV: Well, they're undocumented people. Also, they're not voting in federal elections. They need to be included in the census and for local appropriation, because there are people that live there.

So, that matters, and their children can go to our schools and they have children that then become Americans.

GUTFELD: You are friends with illegal aliens, are you?

TARLOV: Anyway, so there's a bill, Kyrsten Sinema and Thom Tillis's bill, which has a lot of bipartisan support, there are some Republicans saying its mass amnesty, two million dreamers that would get citizenship, 25 billion for the border and an extension of Title 42. Feels like that would be a pretty good idea to take it now that there are so many Democrats that are saying that we can't afford to let this expire for what's going to happen on a -- on a daily basis.

GUTFELD: Dems, each Democrat should adopt a migrant.

WATTERS: That's a good idea.

GUTFELD: Don't you think so? I think that's the solution, especially when Title 42 ends and you're going to see this -- you know, this health emergency measure go away. The states -- border states are going to be hit with a lot of people. You know, maybe the buses to Martha's Vineyard just doubled, tripled them up.

PIRRO: Look, first, I want to address the issue of a Newsom going to the border. OK. 40 percent of California's made up the largest ethnic population is Latinos in California. And apparently, one-third of their labor force is made up of the illegals. I call them illegals also.

GUTFELD: Undocumented, Judge.

PIRRO: They're undocumented, OK.

TARLOV: Thank you, Greg.

GUTFELD: You're welcome, Jessica.

PIRRO: They are violating the law coming here. But we need to be nice about it. It would be unfair to call it what it is.

But unfortunately, all of a sudden, he decides he wants to go to the border. I mean, he's had this issue in California since he's been the governor. It's first time he's gone to the border, which shows how it's just a matter of convenience. It's political, for his -- for a political opportunity for him.

But one million fentanyl pills have come to the border in the last week. And my question is, when is enough? How much can we afford? How many kids can our schools take if they're not getting money from the federal government? How many people should be sleeping on the streets as Dana talked about in the cold because they don't have beds for them?

You know, when do we lose our sovereignty as a nation? Because this is now an open-border country. I know no other country in the world that has this kind of a vote from border, we are losing our sovereignty, it's that simple.

GUTFELD: Jesse, the floor is yours. Would you want to discuss invading Mexico? You were talking about that in the break.

WATTERS: Well, you do have to acknowledge that we're neighbors with cartels, that we have a narco-state sitting on our southern border. And until you acknowledge that, you're never going to fix the problem.

What are the hurdles that someone has to jump over to get an I.D.?

TARLOV: Well, people who live in rural counties, so that's primarily who this affects, I think it's 11 to 12 percent.

WATTERS: What is the hurdle?

TARLOV: Getting there?

WATTERS: Getting there.

TARLOV: If people are working and you have to drive hundreds of miles to get to a government facility to do this, I'm just saying there are reports and it's not like I'm making it up.

WATTERS: So, on a Sunday when you're not working and you have to drive a little while.

TARLOV: Not everyone is not working on Saturday.

WATTERS: On a Sunday, the day of rest. It's not that hard.

Also, Gavin Newsom, was that a photoshoot?

GUTFELD: He looked great.

WATTERS: The border has never looked so good.

GUTFELD: I know, I liked his root causes.

WATTERS: I liked the jacket. It's fine. And he understands that you have to sometimes pull stunts to draw attention to the problem, which is why we have to start busing and flying the illegals back to Democrat precincts. I know it's the wintertime, flying to Aspen, Martha's Vineyard not the hot spot right now, fly them to Aspen, fly them to Kamala's neighborhood. Do what you have to do to go on offense. Because if you continue to just absorb these waves of migrants like this and say, oh, shucks, Biden better do something, that's not a good strategy either.

GUTFELD: All righty, up next AOC's climate change movie bombs hard at the box office.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

PIRRO: She's a socialist, a social media sensation and firebrand progressive lawmaker, but AOC's bid to become a movie star ending in a spectacular failure. Her new climate change documentary called To The End bombing at theaters, the film making only \$80.00 per theater and raking in less than \$10,000 during its opening weekend. Maybe it's because it's so cringeworthy.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ (D-NY): Some of us have to actually live the future that you all are setting on fire.

JOE BIDEN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: We're going to make historic investments, seize the opportunity.

OCASIO-CORTEZ: We got the candidate that was nominated to come to us.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: We're going to go out in a blaze of glory, or we're going to win what we want.

OCASIO-CORTEZ: America has faced threats before and come out stronger.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PIRRO: All right, well, AOC is wanting to get a lot of attention whenever she speaks about anything. And yet, this is when the people would actually come out and affirm or confirm whatever it is she's doing. Why did she flop, Greg?

GUTFELD: I mean, first of all, I mean, \$80.00 per theater. I mean, I made \$80.00 in a theater, and there wasn't even a movie playing.

PERINO: Wow. What do you mean?

GUTFELD: It's no surprise. Who would go see the -- a movie that's the opposite of entertaining? There's nothing entertaining about that. Michael Moore's colonoscopy is more entertaining than that because there's probably more twists. But it does show you how great it is to be a progressive in a liberal bias culture. She really doesn't do her job, right? She makes movies, she goes to galas, she sits for glossy butt kissing, interviews in GQ and other women's mags. Once you get over the fact that you're hollow inside, it's not a bad life.

PIRRO: All right, Dana.

PERINO: Well, I think that I've read a little bit of the New York Times review. And Ted -- Teo, he thinks that the hopelessness of the movie makes it a hard sell for people who will go see the movie and also for the voters to change their minds about climate change. But they said for AOC that she offers the best onscreen antidote to despair because she's funny, cunny -- canny political strategy. But they don't like it if conservatives are funny, right? It's only -- it's only helpful if they're --

GUTFELD: That's mean. If a conservative is funny, that mean --

PERINO: It's mean, right.

GUTFELD: You're being mean. In my case, it's true.

PERINO: But I'm fascinated they thought there was an audience for this outside of like Earth Justice --

PIRRO: Yes.

PERINO: -- or the Justice Democrats, because who really wanted to go and see this thing? And then tomorrow, you'll have an article that we'll have to talk about which is that kids all over America are having nightmares about climate change. Well, no wonder.

PIRRO: Well, Jessica, what about the fact that the climate activists are very much -- I mean, they're very much enthused about what they do, and you know, they do all kinds of things to get attention. I mean, they're willing to get run over on the highways and get their skin glued to in museums. Why aren't they at least showing a -- watching a movie?

GUTFELD: They're cheap.

TARLOV: People don't go to the theater anymore. I don't want to -- I mean, they do for like a Top Gun or the Marvel movies are really successful. But in the -- certainly the post-COVID era, everyone wants to watch everything at home, especially something that's like that, you know. She had a Netflix documentary three years ago -- three or four years ago right after she won with some other progressives called Knock Down the House. And I think that was really highly viewed because people could just sit around and watch it. You want to turn it off because you want to grab dinner, come back, turn it back on.

But the most successful climate documentary was Al Gore's An Inconvenient Truth and it only made \$24 million. This is not like a big fun one --

PERINO: The best is that it was released on the coldest day of the year. I'll never forget it.

TARLOV: Inconvenient Truth was?

PERINO: It's one of my favorite day as a press secretary.

PIRRO: All right, Jesse, would you go to this movie?

WATTERS: Would I go to it? No. Have I seen it? No. Will I talk about it? Yes.

GUTFELD: Yes.

WATTERS: So, as a product in the marketplace, AOC, no one wants to buy that.

PIRRO: Yes.

WATTERS: So, this is what politicians often get confused about. Just because you're popular in politics doesn't mean you're popular anywhere else. In fact, usually, people that can't do anything anywhere else go into politics to succeed. And she found out that way the hard way. What's fraudulent about this is because she's trying to sell herself to some hiker. Where did she grow up again? West Chester.

PIRRO: West Chester.

WATTERS: She represents Queens.

TARLOV: There are trails in West Chester.

WATTERS: And she wears clad. And then she has little ski things with like a 60-pound backpack. Like, she does that. I have never seen -- and she showcases her whole life on social media. You can never see her in private. Everything is on social media. I've never seen her hike before but the one time she does a documentary about the environment, she's out there --

PIRRO: She's a hiker.

WATTERS: -- doing the Appalachian Trail. I'm not buying it.

PIRRO: All right, are you?

PERINO: No.

TARLOV: Oh, we have more time. No. No one likes it.

PIRRO: OK, good that's the end of it.

Ahead, this is not a joke. John Fetterman named one of the New York Times most stylish people of the Year.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

TARLOV: Gym shorts and a hoodie all of a sudden becoming very fashionable. John Fetterman named is one of the New York Times most stylish people the year. The dress-down soon-to-be Senator joining the ranks of celebrities like Beyonce, Harry Styles, and Brad Pitt. Fetterman is also going Hollywood. He and his wife are set to appear in a new Netflix drama with Christian Bale.

The movie star says Fetterman fits the part saying, "John's got this fantastic face-hulking figure. So, I said to Scott, we've got to have him in the tavern. That's a face that fits in the 1830s. Greg?"

GUTFELD: That is a face.

TARLOV: It is a face.

GUTFELD: It's definitely a face. According to science, that's a face. And no, you got to give them credit. Like, you're not going to forget that face. I mean, that's the face you see in nightmares, you know. It's just like this -- it's -- let's be honest, OK. I also think he's done a service for us. As comfortable as hoodies and shorts are, he looked terrible. He makes him look like a big dumb goon. This guy makes Jesse Ventura look like Daniel Craig.

You know, I know tow truck drivers who would -- who would be embarrassed to be in the front seat with him because of that style. And if he's like the most stylish, then Jesse is like voted most selfless.

WATTERS: I am actually surprisingly selfless. You don't know about it because I don't talk about it. But that's --

GUTFELD: Yes.

WATTERS: No one talks about it.

GUTFELD: Nobody. It's --

TARLOV: That's kept secret.

GUTFELD: You know, it's the world's best-kept secret.

WATTERS: So, he's like an extra for the Democrats, if you think about the Democrat machine as a production unit. They can make Fetterman the best dress, they can put Fetterman in a Hollywood hit with Christian Bale and they can put Fetterman in the U.S. Senate. They can do anything to anybody. That's how powerful they are. And it's kind of just flaunting how they can get away with anything.

We can take this guy off the street, looks homeless, and put them in the highest office in the land or close to it. And you can't do anything about it. You can have a TV star with billions of dollars and too many homes to count and he can't even take this guy.

GUTFELD: That's America.

WATTERS: That's how good we are at doing what we do.

GUTFELD: I think you proved a different point than you intended.

PIRRO: Yes.

GUTFELD: But it was a good one.

WATTERS: You get it. I mean, listen, this guy is not worth Jack. And look at him, he's next to Christian Bale.

TARLOV: What do you mean --

WATTERS: When did he have time to do this?

TARLOV: It was before --

WATTERS: He's recovered. He's going to have another heart attack --

TARLOV: It was before --

WATTERS: -- and they're putting him in a movie right next to Bale?

TARLOV: It's -- he's sitting in a tavern. He doesn't have any heavy lift to this. And it was --

PIRRO: Does he have any lines?

TARLOV: I don't know. I think it's just for his face. But Dana, isn't the less --

WATTERS: His face.

TARLOV: Fashion these days is not conventional. Like, who has the best- tailored suits though. Eric Adams is one of the lists for that.

PERINO: However, we have to consider the source, OK. So, this is the New York Times. And all of a sudden, they're like, oh, wow, Carhart. It's so trendy, chic. And most of the rest of America like yes, we wear that every day because we work outside. He wears it and does not -- no work outside. He's not a blue-collar guy. He lived with -- you know, lived off of his parents, made \$150 a year. He attended at Harvard. And all of a sudden, it's like, he's cool because he wears a trucker hat?

And that trucker hat -- truckers are like, whoa, are we cool now too? But oh, no, the New York Times would never say that.

WATTERS: He went to Harvard?

PERINO: Yes.

TARLOV: Yes. Why are you --

GUTFELD: Jesse --

WATTERS: And he's living with his parents?

PERINO: He lived off his parents.

TARLOV: No, he lives with wife and children.

GUTFELD: It is funny how it's cool if you take the peep, the blue-collar style, but the blue-collar people never get the accolades.

PERINO: No.

TARLOV: I'm not even going to try to say anything. Just you go rip him whatever you want.

WATTERS: No, you try. You try.

TARLOV: No.

PIRRO: Honestly, I think he looks good in 1830. He looks more normal then than now.

WATTERS: That's so true.

PIRRO: That's all I have to say. I mean, that's what it should be.

PERINO: We're going to see him in a suit in a couple of weeks.

TARLOV: Yes, he looks -- when Biden came, he was wearing a suit. When he was on the Capitol, he was wearing a suit.

PIRRO: He doesn't look good in a suit. I think you should stick to what he's wearing because that's who he is.

GUTFELD: You know what's going on in the 1830s --

TARLOV: I don't think you're allowed to. Don't you have to wear a jacket? Or you have to wear a tie?

PIRRO: What was going on in the 1830s?

PERINO: Both.

GUTFELD: Slavery.

PIRRO: Oh.

GUTFELD: Do you know what's going on in the 1830s?

PIRRO: The Democrats --

GUTFELD: Slavery.

PIRRO: The Democrats, yes.

GUTFELD: See? They can't get enough of it. He had to go back in time. It's disgusting.

TARLOV: It was coded that Christian Bale wanted to send this message.

GUTFELD: It's a dog whistle.

TARLOV: Sadly, we have to leave this topic. "THE FASTEST" is up next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

WATTERS: Welcome back. Time for "THE FASTEST." First up, every Christmas season, you can't escape this holiday tune.

But nobody gets it worse than the retail workers who are forced to hear Mariah Carey's All I Want for Christmas for hours and hours and hours on end. One worker turns on an industrial fan and stands under it every time he hears it. And others take refuge in the stockroom to avoid the holiday hit.

I liked this song.

TARLOV: Me too.

PIRRO: So do I.

WATTERS: What's wrong with the song?

PIRRO: Nothing's wrong with this song. She's got a beautiful voice and she can belt one out. And you know, I think it's a sweet song. What's wrong with it?

WATTERS: I don't know. And you don't even celebrate Christmas and you love it.

TARLOV: We do celebrate Christmas actually.

WATTERS: Oh, why?

TARLOV: Well, my dad always thought that it was just really festive and fun that you don't lose your Jewish identity necessarily because you have a tree. And it's also, it's compact, which is nice. Like, one day of celebration.

WATTERS: You had a Christmas Tree?

TARLOV: Well, now, I married a Christian so it's mandatory.

WATTERS: Oh, OK.

TARLOV: But no, no, we had like several little there -- they weren't Hanukkah, but they were like hybrid things. Anyway, I love Christmas too. But if you had to listen --

PERINO: You had a Hanukkah (INAUDIBLE)?

TARLOV: Well, they're Hanukkah bushes.

WATTERS: Don't light the bush on fire.

TARLOV: I did light the bush on fire.

GUTFELD: It happened in the Bible.

PIRRO: It did?

WATTERS: How would you know? I never heard anything like that from you.

PIRRO: He saw it in the movie.

WATTERS: Dana, you liked the song, or you hate the song?

PERINO: So, I like the song but I understand where these people are coming from because we like it because we hear it on occasion, during the holidays. Imagine hearing it every 25 minutes. And there's a guy up here who is raising money for Salvation Army and he plays it constantly, and all the people dance around. And I avoid that as -- at all costs because it gets in your head and won't get out.

GUTFELD: You know what's great about that dude, is that he -- so he does three songs. And it's in front of Rough Trade Records, which is a record store, so it's all record nerds and they hate it. So, it says nonstop, Mariah Carey and they're pulling what's left of their hair out.

I'm with them though. I can't stand her. She has apparently a beautiful voice but she doesn't know how to sing a song. I would like to give her some lessons on teaching her how to actually sing appropriately because I feel bad for her. I think we do need a Christmas music-free zone. People don't understand living in Midtown how bad it is to hear constantly. It's disgusting.

This is -- there's a reason why you only hear this music once a year because it's that bad. It's just like why we only eat --

PIRRO: Is that the reason?

GUTFELD: Yes, it's the reason why we only have turkey once a year. It's a terrible bird, right? But like, you wouldn't have -- I don't know who said this. I can't remember. Maybe it's Bill Maher who said -- maybe it wasn't him. Somebody said when you go out to dinner for somebody's birthday, they never asked for turkey.

PERINO: No.

GUTFELD: And if you're going to go to a club and dance, you know dance to Christmas music. This is all a scam. And I want it to end now.

WATTERS: So do we.

PIRRO: That is stunning. You could do that by one song.

GUTFELD: What?

PIRRO: Put that together.

WATTERS: Don't listen to anything he says.

Up next, doing the dishes stinks. That's why according to a new survey, the average person lets them sit in the sink untouched for a day and a half. That is filthy.

GUTFELD: I bet that's what you were before you were married.

WATTERS: What?

GUTFELD: Well, I bet you never washed the damn thing. You didn't even know how. I bet everything eat -- I bet you bought paper plates and you ate on the toilet you dirtbag.

PIRRO: Oh.

GUTFELD: Yes, you -- and then you get married. They come and they teach you how to do that stuff. But before that --

PIRRO: They? Who's they?

GUTFELD: They, chicks, girls, scams --

PIRRO: Chicks, is the call?

GUTFELD: Ladies.

PIRRO: Really?

GUTFELD: Broads.

PIRRO: Oh, my god.

GUTFELD: Yes, yes, I'm not -- I'm not kidding. I'll use they for that, but not they for them to catch my drift.

WATTERS: Dana.

TARLOV: I caught it. I didn't like it.

PERINO: So, I -- yes, I -- this is probably true.

WATTERS: Yes?

PERINO: Because if I have a cup of tea, and I put it in there, and then I don't get home to the next night, then I'll put it in the morning. So, I think that counts as --

WATTERS: Well, Peter doesn't do them when you're out?

PERINO: He does.

WATTERS: Oh, there it is. Peter does the dishes. We're going to do a whole segment on that.

PERINO: No. And now he's going to get mad at me and I have to hear about it all night.

WATTERS: Oh, you're in so much trouble. He's going to have to reclaim his man card and you know what that means.

PERINO: Oh, great, great. Jesse, you just ruin my night. Thanks.

WATTERS: Or I made it the best night of your life. I sound like you. Why am I talking like you? All right, Jessica.

TARLOV: I saw this great tweet a few months ago that said, like, who told men that soaking is the same as washing? And it's so accurate. My husband cleans up all the time. And I walk over like -- because I go to bed after him. And it's just a swamp in there are dishes that are clean.

GUTFELD: And it smells weird.

TARLOV: But just soaking in there. And then I load them into the dishwasher like a normal human being and he still gets to be a clean person.

GUTFELD: Do you know where that came from?

TARLOV: What?

GUTFELD: It came from the commercials? Remember the Palmolive lady? You put your fingers in the --

PIRRO: That's what you're supposed to do.

GUTFELD: Yes, you're supposed to create this fallacy, again, that you have to soak the dish.

WATTERS: Soak first, then load.

GUTFELD: Yes.

WATTERS: Are we wrong? Are we doing it wrong?

TARLOV: No, just rinse off and load.

WATTERS: Oh, you mean -- well, it doesn't have to soak for quite a bit time?

TARLOV: No, it doesn't, Jesse.

WATTERS: It has to soak for the amount of time for me get out of the kitchen.

TARLOV: It also actually doesn't even need to be soaked.

PIRRO: No.

GUTFELD: What do you do when you break a dish or a glass?

PIRRO: When you break the dish, you actually throw it out and don't say anything.

TARLOV: At home?

PIRRO: That's number one.

GUTFELD: No, I'm saying --

PIRRO: Number two --

GUTFELD: You're not even listening to me, Judge. I'm talking about the dishwasher.

PIRRO: It's because it's my turn. That's why I'm not listening to you.

GUTFELD: OK, well, that's nothing new.

PIRRO: So, what you do is you take the dish, and you get a brush so it doesn't affect your hands and you run it under hot water.

WATTERS: Yes.

PIRRO: I, however, in case you've noticed, I don't have my -- that soft (INAUDIBLE) anymore. It's off. So, I've washed dishes in six weeks, I'm happy to say. Well, what you can do is you can get the long-handle thing that has a face and then put it in the dishwasher.

WATTERS: I still think the right thing to do is soak it until you're out of there and then your wife finds it and finds it so then it's her job.

PIRRO: No, it isn't. It's not her job.

PERINO: I mean, I'm guilty. I do that.

GUTFELD: You don't have kids, you know.

WATTERS: And then when -- you are full of ideas tonight.

GUTFELD: Yes, I am.

WATTERS: "ONE MORE THING" is up next.

GUTFELD: Other things too.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

PERINO: Time now for "ONE MORE THING." Jessica?

TARLOV: OK, so on Sunday, my daughter Cleo turned one. It was very exciting. This is her with her smash cake feeding her dad. Then her the other babies. Tennessee and Sylvie getting in there. Paws, everyone. Get in on the fun. This incredible -- the big cake and the smash, Itty Bitty Bakery. Incredible work with my mom, my best friend, and her two kids. It was such a nice day.

She loves presents. She kind of gets it something special was happening for her and she's using them all today. We got to this ball pit. I did not buy enough balls, which I guess turned out to be a strategic advantage because we don't have to pick up as many balls.

PERINO: You have to pick it up.

TARLOV: But she loves it and her little princess cage there. Again, with the girls. They're just so cute, Tennessee and Sylvie. Unwrapping presents, she did it with Gusto. So, happy birthday to Cleo.

WATTERS: Happy Birthday!

PERINO: Happy Birthday! And congrats to you.

TARLOV: Thank you.

PERINO: It's a big milestone for a mama too.

PIRRO: Yes.

PERINO: Greg.

GUTFELD: God, I remember the ball pit. Just last week. Tonight on "GUTFELD!" Andrew Doyle, he's great. He's from England, you know. Rob Smith, Kat Timpf, Tyrus. It's going to be a great show.

Let's do this. Greg, Who Does All The Work Here? You know, you always see that guy like when a car is stuck in a ditch. And there's always a dude who waits until everybody gets in the right spot before they help and they pretend like they're helping. We'll check this out. Here's a lady trying to -- trying to catch a kangaroo. It's pretty hard. This is hard business. The kangaroo is like --

WATTERS: Oh.

GUTFELD: Look at this. I mean -- and she's tying -- obviously, she's trying to save --

PIRRO: Wow, she's biting her.

GUTFELD: She trying to save the kangaroo, right? But she does -- she gets it. She gets it. Look at this. That's a very brave woman. And then -- and then here comes her friend.

TARLOV: Is that how you're supposed to --

PERINO: Oh, my gosh.

GUTFELD: And then her friend just comes out with a bag. Come on, lady. That's all she got to do?

PERINO: Oh.

WATTERS: Oh.

PERINO: Whoa.

PIRRO: Oh, the poor thing.

PERINO: Wow.

GUTFELD: Anyway, so that's it. So, now --

TARLOV: Is that the proper procedure for doing this?

PIRRO: He's being kidnapped.

GUTFELD: Yes, if you want to -- if you want to order a kangaroo in a bag, you just go to Amazon. That will come in two to four days.

PERINO: Yes, right before Christmas.

GUTFELD: Exactly, if you want it.

PERINO: Order it tonight. OK, I wanted to talk about this country music star. Kenny Chesney is doing a charity event for a really good cause. So, his -- he had a wonderful dog named Ruby. And unfortunately, she passed away. And he wrote a song called the Ruby girl. Here's a little -- listen.

So, he wrote it in honor of her, his beloved pup. And after her passing, he is hoping the song can help raise money for stray dogs. The song now available for download anywhere you download. And the proceeds will go to Stray Rescue of St. Louis. And he said he's happy that through his fund, Ruby's life will help pay it forward to other pups.

It's a cute little song. And I know a lot of people love dogs. So, take a listen. Judge.

PIRRO: All right, well, everybody knows what a Quinceanera is, OK. And there is a guy, Gabriel Iglesias, who owns a chihuahua named Risa. And so, he decided to give Risa the dog a quinceanera to remember. He spare no expense, estimating the event costs \$100,000. Risa had three outfit changes that were custom-made for her four-pound body. 300 guests, 12 dogs were at the celebration that included a DJ dancing, character artists, and more. Guests chowing down on bacon-wrapped hot dogs while the free partygoers were treated to a Papachino station. Congratulations, Risa, on your milestone birthday.

PERINO: Quinceanera. I think we spoken quinceanera wrong actually. Jesse.

WATTERS: Cleo's birthday seems a little --

GUTFELD: Terrible.

WATTERS: All right, tonight on --

TARLOV: Did you just said that to a mom?

WATTERS: You know I'm only kidding. "JESSE WATTERS PRIMETIME," Lindsey Graham is going to be joining us at 7:00.

GUTFELD: He looks different.

WATTERS: This is not a mistake. Different Lindsey Graham.

PIRRO: Oh.

PERINO: All right, that's it for us. "SPECIAL REPORT" is up next. Hey, Bret!

END

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HD **Bankman-Fried Charged, Will Be Extradited To U.S.; Lawmakers Grill FTX CEO Over Company's Collapse; White House Holds Press Briefing; Rep. John Katko (R-NY), Is Being Interviewed About The GOP's Calls To Impeach DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas; Some House GOP Push To Impeach DHS Sec Mayorkas; DHS Brace For Migrant Surge After End Of Title 42; Former Loudoun County Superintendent Appears In Court; Virginia Grand Jury Indicts Former Loudoun Superintendent; Crypto King Charged With Fraud, Money Laundering; FTX Founder Indicted On Eight Criminal Charges; Musk Dubbed "America's Foremost Culture Warrior"; Poll: DeSantis Tops Trump In Potential 2024 Race; Search Underway For Missing US Student In France; Philly Columbus Statue Uncovered After 2 Years**

BY Martha MacCallum, Kelly O'Grady, Jackie DeAngeles, Bill Melugin, Mark Meredith, David Spunt, Caitlyn Jenner, Andy McCarthy, Marc Thiessen, David Lee Miller

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JOHN ROBERTS, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: And the people who gave you the money are not going to get paid back and neither will the ones who the money got shifted to. I mean, it's crazy.

SANDRA SMITH, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST: Massive, and there were red flags that, that were being ignored for quite some time leading up to it.

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ROBERTS: Yes, but they figured it all out in the end.

SMITH: Exactly, kudos to them. Thanks for joining us. I'm Sandra Smith.

ROBERTS: And I'm John Roberts. We'll see you tomorrow, THE STORY with Martha starts right now.

MARTHA MACCALLUM, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST (on camera): Thank you very much, you guys. Good afternoon, everyone, I'm Martha MacCallum. 30-year-old, Sam Bankman-Fried is in increasingly hot water. Now, still in the Bahamas. He is charged with fraud, with money laundering. And a Bahamian prosecutor now says that if he denies the extradition plan, that when he gets here, they're, they're saying that the judge should deny him his bail. This as his arrest yesterday, got him out of testifying on Capitol Hill. He was expected to do that by video today. Instead, of committee spoke to the new CEO brought in to comb through the financial ruins.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOHN RAY, FTX CEO: Collapse appears to stem from absolute concentration of control in the hands of a small group of grossly inexperienced and unsophisticated individuals who failed to implement virtually any of the systems or controls that are necessary for a company entrusted with other people's money or assets.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: And that's saying a lot because that gentleman has overseen in run and a number of collapses, financial collapses. So now, this for you know, until now, crypto king, who was the second largest donor to Democrats in the midterms, will be sitting in a courtroom. Back home, his firm's name on Miami arena and his spokespeople who included Tom Brady and Shaq and all those you see up here, maybe this from his one-time CEO and girlfriend should have raised more flags at the SEC and the DOJ.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CAROLINE ELLISON, FORMER CEO, ALAMEDA: A lot of people who are like very smart but aren't good at necessarily the very like messy world of trading, especially crypto trading. You never, yes, you never have all the information, so you kind of just have to make a, make your best guess based on what you can see.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: So, that's comforting to those who invested \$8 million. Andy McCarthy on these new charges, plus Sandra Smith and Jackie DeAngeles join me here on set in New York. But first to Fox Business Correspondent Kelly O'Grady covering this story. Hi, Kelly.

KELLY O'GRADY, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Hi, Martha. You know, lots of frustration that he wasn't testifying at that hearing today. I mean, some are arguing that SPF couldn't even incriminated himself further, though, there were certainly revelations from new FTX CEO John J. Ray, they are going to give prosecutors a number of things to dig into. So, he's revealing that he's confirmed the commingling of FTX and Alameda funds as well as the improper use of customer assets for margin trading.

And even, by the way, I thought this is wild, the company was using QuickBooks to keep their records. I mean, that underscores how the exchange was operating with a complete lack of controls and systems. Now, meanwhile, like you said, SBF, he's in the Bahamas, he's participating in an ongoing local court hearing now that he's been arrested. We're learning the prosecutor is arguing he believes SBF is a flight risk and should be denied bail if he opposes extradition.

He's foreshadowing though, that he may not go quietly, Martha saying he will not waive his right to an extradition hearing. Now, this, of course, was all brought about by the charges from the Southern District of New York, they were unsealed today. So, I do want to highlight those for a bit here. He's looking at eight counts. Legal experts tell me if he is convicted on all of those. You can see wire fraud, conspiracy to commit securities fraud, he could spend up to life in prison, for example, just one count of conspiracy to commit wire fraud could mean up to 25 years in jail.

The last thing I'll highlight, there is a big focus on the speed of these charges, given how complicated the crypto space is. The SDNY, they just held a presser and the FBI Assistant Director in Charge said this, "This case is about fraud. Fraud is fraud. It does not matter the complexity of the investment scheme. It does not matter the amount of money involved. If you mislead and deceive to take what does not belong to you, we will hold you accountable." I mean, that really, that says it there, right? This is fraud, and they are going to make an example out of SBF, Martha.

MACCALLUM: Yes. Kelly, you know, it's interesting when you look at prior examples, and we've seen other similar cases in the crypto space where convictions on far fewer counts have led to some significant time.

O'GRADY: Yes, absolutely. And I mean, I also think about not just the crypto space, but Elizabeth Holmes in the Theranos trial. I mean, she got 11 years, and it was really all about intent and in deceiving investors very similar here.

MACCALLUM: Yes. So, Kelly, you know, in terms of how much what -- you mentioned, the fact that he's a flight risk, what's your sense of -- you know what, hang on one second, Kelly, we're going to go to the White House because we've been waiting for Jacqui Heinrich's question here at the press briefing. Let's go in there. Let's watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KARINE JEAN-PIERRE, WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT: -- discuss or lean into on this.

JACQUI HEINRICH, FOX NEWS CHANNEL WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT: Bernie Sanders just said that he's dealing with White House opposition to it right now. So, just hoping for a confirmation of what was going on there.

PIERRE: So, look, I'll say this, we're in touch with members of Congress on this, thanks to our diplomacy, which remains ongoing and delicate. The violence over nearly nine months has effectively stopped. As we have seen during this administration, the situation is still fragile, and our diplomatic efforts are ongoing. So, we want to make sure that this is not impacted and the people of Yemen do not suffer or that any of the progress we have made is overturned.

Again, I really don't want to get ahead of the progress. We continue to work with Congress on this. We're having the conversations. I just want to get ahead of that.

HEINRICH: It sounds like he might veto that if it comes --

PIERRE: I'm just not going to make a prediction. I'm certainly not going to make a prediction of what the President is going to do, is not going to do. We're having conversations with members of Congress, and I will leave it there. Thanks, everybody.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: OK, all right, just keeping an eye on the back and forth in the press briefing room today. We want to get back to this story, which is our headline today on Sam Bankman-Friedman. And I'm joined now by Sandra Smith, Co-Anchor of "AMERICA REPORTS" and Fox Business Correspondent Jackie DeAngelo, hot off of your own show -- and thank you very much for coming by. So, Sandra, you know, I just keep thinking about what a flight risk he is whether any indications today in what he plans to do in terms of this extradition and whether or not he's going to cooperate.

SMITH: If you're an investor and you're you were booked out of you know, millions of dollars, you're wondering why he's not behind bars.

MACCALLUM: Absolutely.

SMITH: This was -- there's a lot of comparisons to Ponzi schemes and that's fair, we you know, you can make that case. This was all out theft.

MACCALLUM: Yes.

SMITH: OK. This is what this person has allegedly committed here. I can't, I can hardly believe the news conference that we just heard out of SDNY, I'm not sure any or all of them understand finance. John and I were both sort of chewing on that after the news conference. We're not really sure where they were going with this. There was a lot of congratulatory notes to each other, pats on the back. This case was hand -- Sam Bankman-Fried handed this case to them. They did not see this. They did not call it as, as it was happening. This went on for months there were people raising red flags.

I'm sure you've heard me or others that reference Terry Duffy, head of the largest derivatives exchange in the world. He said back in March, he called him a fraud to his face. He was then in a hearing where he warned lawmakers this guy was a fraud. There were red flags everywhere. There just wasn't anybody asking questions. And when it comes to the SDNY and the Feds here, they missed this.

MACCALLUM: Absolutely.

SMITH: They should not be patting each other on the back. I mean, there were red flags. I mean, there was no money there. There was no there, there with this scheme.

MACCALLUM: Yes, and you know, the fact that this is crypto that we're dealing with, as you say, it is really irrelevant. Well, these are real investment dollars, millions of real investment dollars, Jackie, that were given to this investment. And the fact that these are traded in the U.S. system with what it looks like next to no regulation, and no ability to, you know, meanwhile, this guy's pouring money into Democratic candidate's pockets who are in charge of overseeing this, who dropped the ball here?

JACKIE DEANGELO, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT: Well, you have to wonder if that's why it's taken so long, roughly a month --

MACCALLUM: And why he didn't have to testify in front of Congress today?

DEANGELO: Why he didn't have to testify in front of Congress today, why he's been allowed to sit down with different media organizations like the New York Times and deny that he knew that anything happened to point the finger at everybody else within the organization, when really was on the top and he was in charge. I mean, the way I have been looking at this, since it happened is this is a regular exchange.

Customers do not anticipate when they put funds into their account to buy crypto or anything else, that you're going to take it and buy real estate assets, or you're going to leverage it to make your own bets within your trading firm. So, that's problem number one there. Problem number two is cooking the books, if that's in fact, what they did. If they made their valuations seem higher, and their balance sheet look different to attract investments, these are garden variety, sort of fraudulent activities, criminal activity.

The NFT token piece is just a separate piece of it. We could talk about regulation as we move into the future. So, the fact that the CFTC and the SEC, some flags were raised, but nobody acted, nobody started asking questions, no one was digging into it. It so reminds me of the made off thing of how they miss that, but then they quickly jumped into action and brought charges right, and they haven't in this case.

And so, I think for him to have gotten in front of this committee today would have been a huge embarrassment for the agencies, for the Justice Department as well, and who knows, you know what, but sort of what would happen with the lawmakers that took those donations?

SMITH: I think people want to know why there were not -- there's rules for every asset class out there.

MACCALLUM: Right.

SMITH: But those rules didn't apply to this asset class and that was a known entity for all the months and years leading up to this, and I think we should all be wondering why that is?

MACCALLUM: Yes, and (INAUDIBLE) the head of the SEC, did we hear from him today at all?

SMITH: Yes, and he's the one who's saying that we are going to have to consider some more rules.

MACCALLUM: So, rude awakening.

SMITH: It really is.

MACCALLUM: Yes, we'll see what happens. You know, I'm very apprehensive about what happens between the Bahamas and here, and getting him --

SMITH: You have been all along.

MACCALLUM: I have, you know, we'll see what happen, we'll see what happens. I'd feel a whole lot better if I was working this case, or if I was an investor if he was in this country at this point. Thanks, you guys.

SMITH: Thank you.

MACCALLUM: Good to see you both. Thanks so much for coming by. So, Andy McCarthy helps us dig into these charges later this hour. He's been watching all this very closely, what a really brilliant piece about it earlier today, so we're going to speak with him. But first to this breaking story now, new calls to impeach the Homeland Security Secretary Mayorkas and extend Title 42 as the crisis at our southern border is continuing to spiral. Congressman John Katko, top Republican on the Homeland Security Committee, after this.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: So, happening right now, House Republicans are talking about their plan to impeach Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, when they take control in January, this is Rodney Scott.

Let's listen for just a second here.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

RODNEY SCOTT, FORMER CHIEF, UNITED STATES BORDER PATROL: -- testify the border secure. I think that divert deserves impeachment. Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: Thanks, Steube.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Steube.

REP. GREG STEUBE (R-FL): 98. 98 is the number of the known terrorists that have been let into our country. I had the opportunity to serve our country in the military, and I served as the chief of detainee operations for multinational division north.

So, I know a little something about terrorism. I know a little something about fighting terrorism. And in the judiciary committee, when we asked Secretary Mayorkas, did you release these known terrorists into our country? Not only did he say no, he refused to answer the question, which tells you everything that you need to know.

The 98 known terrorists on the terrorist watch list are now released into our country. I can't think of a higher crime than releasing known terrorists into our country.

And it's time that we stand up. This administration has been intentionally and deliberately violating federal law at the border every single day. And now, with a Republican majority, we're going to hold them accountable and impeach Secretary Mayorkas and bring change and shut the border down.

Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Thank you, Congressman Steube, and --

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: All right. That is Greg Steube of -- congressman of Florida. And you can hear that they are discussing what should happen with Alejandro Mayorkas, excuse me, because they feel that he hasn't done his job, and that he's put the country in danger by not doing his job.

So, the top Republican on the House Homeland Security Committee Congressman John Katko is standing by.

But first, to national correspondent Bill Melugin, who has covered this story like no one else from the border. He isn't -- in La Joya, Texas right now. Hi, Bill.

BILL MELUGIN, FOX NEWS CHANNEL NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Hi, Martha. Good afternoon to you.

Well, speaking of DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas, he is actually in El Paso right now, meeting with frontline Border Patrol and CBP agents. Though they have not made his schedule public, and they have ignored Fox News's requests for comment or to go get, you know, interview with him at some point today.

But we'll show you what's happening in El Paso as I speak right now. Take a look at this brand new piece of video we got in just in the last 30 minutes from our team on the ground there.

This is the situation in El Paso. Another lengthy massive long line of migrants who have crossed illegally into El Paso. Several 100 strong, organizing and waiting to be let in to the United States for processing with Border Patrol in hopes that they will be released into the United States.

Border Patrol remains completely overwhelmed there. They're reporting over the last several days, they've been averaging more than 2,400 illegal crossings per day.

So, that's a look at the situation right now. Take a look at the second piece of video last night. This is in El Paso. Mass releases of migrants underway because Border Patrol is so overwhelmed. Border Patrol has been having to release them just onto city streets.

We went to one street corner and found dozens of these migrants camping out on the sidewalks just camping out, essentially, homeless, because Border Patrol and the local NGOs there, are so overwhelmed and so over capacity.

Then, we'll take you down to Brownsville for even more mass releases. Fox News, once again, witnessing several 100 migrants being released by the federal government at a parking garage in downtown Brownsville.

They then, walk across the street to an NGO, the NGO helps book their travel, and those migrants are off to airports, and bus stations to travel all around the country.

And then, lastly, we'll take you to Matamoros, Mexico. The Mexican city directly across from Brownsville, where there are 1000s of migrants waiting for Title 42 to drop in eight days from now.

We saw hundreds of people in public parks and on the streets, simply waiting for that day to come. Martha. We'll send it back to you.

MACCALLUM: It's just -- it's unreal. It's absolutely incomprehensible that there is no system to handle this, in a more efficient and effective way.

Bill Melugin, thank you very much.

And a safe way. It's totally uncompassionate what we're watching at the border.

With that, we bring in New York Congressman John Katko. The top Republican on the Homeland Security Committee. Congressman, thank you for being here today.

We were just watching some of your colleagues talking about a move to impeach Alejandro Mayorkas, the Department of Homeland security chief.

What would be the grounds? How would you pursue that specifically?

REP. JOHN KATKO (R-NY): Well, that's exactly the question. And I think, Leader McCarthy, soon to be Speaker McCarthy said it right, when he said, in order to do an impeachment proceeding, first need to do, the investigation.

And let me get into the majority, that's what's going to happen.

There is going to be an investigation. Don't forget, there are standards for impeachment. It's called high crimes and misdemeanors.

And it's not just policy disagreements, we got to build our case, just like I did as a prosecutor for two decades.

You build your case, and then you bring the charges. You don't bring the charges, and then, build your case.

And I think that's we're going to do.

MACCALLUM: So, do you think that your colleagues are stepping, you know, are getting out over their skis on this? And would you recommend that they pull back and wait for the investigation as you're talking about?

KATKO: Yes, I don't think you've gotten out over the skis. I think they are expressing frustration like we all are, with a madness at the border.

1 million gotaways under this administration. 1 million people that we have no idea we are in this country. That's just the people that were able to document through, video and surveillances.

That's not all, the others that came across. So, this country is overrun with people. They are frustrated, rightfully so. When I say, we dot our i's and cross our t's, and do this the right way, if we're going to do it at all.

MACCALLUM: Well, there's not a lot of dotting i's and crossing t's at the border. It's absolutely out of -- out of control.

(CROSSTALK)

KATKO: And how I know.

MACCALLUM: It's really, you know, an uncompassionate system. We know how many people are losing their lives. We know how much human trafficking is going on. We know that the cartels are basically laughing at how easy we are making it for them to abuse people at our border.

Here is Jake Sullivan asked about the situation and the -- and the current system that's in place in the White House briefing yesterday. Watch this.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JAKE SULLIVAN NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER: We have believed that, that system is a system that does an effective job of being able to determine who is coming across the border, and what the right way to deal with their cases.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: What do you -- what do you say to that answer, sir.

KATKO: I'll say, hey, Jake, that's a terrible take. And here is why. Because the border is not secure. What about the 1 million people who got away that we know of?

You do have no idea who they are, you have no idea where they are. You have no idea if they're on the terror watch list, you have no idea if they're criminals, or rapists, or murderers. We have no idea.

For him to say that they know this unknown -- wait, again, people cross border, it just does not comport with reality.

MACCALLUM: So, let's talk about Title 42 for the last minute that we have together. Because I think that people who watch what's happening, and they see everyone crossing, and they say, well, how can you say that Title 42 is in place, when all these people are pouring across the border.

Only about a quarter are actually turned back for Title 42 at this point. And here is the reason why.

Nicaraguans and Cubans are not subject to Title 42, which means you can keep people out because of pandemic and COVID environment, because their countries won't take them back, and neither will Mexico. How does that make any sense, sir? KATKO: It does make any sense. And the reason we have this crisis at the border goes all the way back to the very first few hours of this administration, on January 20th last year.

The president signed a number of executive orders, which created the pull factors, which basically said, come on over.

And I just tell you something real quick, Martha, it's much worse than that the facts you've articulated. The cartels are now so strong, they're going to lead to an unstable governments, not just in Mexico, but throughout Central America, because the cartels are becoming so enriched through drug trafficking, and now to human trafficking, that they're still flush with cash if they're going to be able to create real true instability. And that is a huge problem. That's going to be take years to correct if we stop this now.

MACCALLUM: So, you know, I mean, we were told that the vice president was going to look at the root causes. You know, that would be something that you would expect she would be working very hard on.

These relationships with the head leaders of these countries that you mentioned, and why they're allowing the cartels to overtake their responsibilities and their ability to take care of their own people.

KATKO: You're exactly right. Now, listen. We got -- I went to Central America, to Honduras, and Guatemala. And I can tell you right now that one- third of the legislature in one of those countries is controlled by the cartel. One-third.

They do that because they have so much cash, you can buy people off.

MACCALLUM: Real.

KATKO: This is a huge problem that is far worse than people realize, and we've got to make it stop, and we will start in January 3rd.

MACCALLUM: Yes. OK. We'll be watching. Thank you very much, Congressman Katko.

KATKO: Thank you.

MACCALLUM: Good to have you here today.

So, also breaking right now, President Biden is about to sign the Respect for Marriage Act at the White House. The bipartisan bill recognizes same sex and interracial marriages, in case the Supreme Court would ever take away those protections that they have -- that these individuals have now.

It includes measures such as letting churches refuse to perform same sex weddings. But the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops says that it doesn't do enough to protect religious liberty.

So, there's an eye on what's going on right now at the White House.

And a live look at the courthouse in Loudoun County, Virginia, which has been the focus of so much coverage when it comes to what's going on in our schools, and where the former school superintendent is now facing criminal charges, after an investigation of two sexual assaults at schools.

The same student was the -- is the accused in both cases. The investigation found the second attack could have been prevented because they were aware of the first.

Remember this. The first victim's father was dragged out of a school board meeting when he tried to get answers about the attack on his daughter.

Caitlyn Jenner joins us in a moment.

First, to correspondent Mark Meredith with the backstory here from Washington. Hi, Mark.

MARK MEREDITH, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Martha, it's quite a backstory. Good afternoon to you. These two assaults have had a ripple effect all across the state of Virginia. As you were showing today, the ex-superintendent of Loudoun County schools, as well as a school spokesperson, they were both in court facing charges related to a grand jury investigation into how all of these assaults were handled.

Now, last week, Loudoun superintendent Scott Ziegler was fired from his job. This is video from today, him, arriving at court. He's been accused of not being honest with the school board about his knowledge of the

incidents. He's also facing three misdemeanors, false publication, prohibited conduct, and he's also accused of penalizing an employee for a court appearance.

Now, a district spokesperson is also on leave after he was indicted for felony perjury. Ziegler spoke to the Washington Post yesterday ahead of this hearing, and he said, "I am disappointed that an attorney general-controlled, secret, and one sided process which never once sought my testimony has made such false and irresponsible accusations.

Now, as the Office of the Attorney General of Virginia who's prosecuting this case, however, he has yet to say much on these specific charges.

The A.G. released a video following the grand jury's report. In it, he blasted Loudoun officials for how they've performed in their jobs.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JASON MIYARES, ATTORNEY GENERAL OF VIRGINIA: That is apparent that the Loudoun County School Board failed to provide proper oversight, accountability, and transparency on the superintendent and their staff, precisely at a time when the victims needed them the most.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MEREDITH: We are expecting to hear from Loudoun County officials a little bit later on this afternoon. There is going to be a school board work session. It's going to be starting a little less than an hour from now, and we are told protesters will be there. Martha.

MACCALLUM: Mark, thank you. Mark Meredith reporting. So, with that, we bring in Caitlyn Jenner, former Republican candidate for Governor of California, and a Fox News contributor.

Caitlyn, always good to see you. Thank you very much for joining me today.

You know, I want to start with this from Scott Smith. That father, who we saw dragged out when he tried to confront the school board over what had happened to his child.

And here is what he had to say on Thursday on "AMERICA REPORTS". Watch.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SCOTT SMITH, FATHER OF SEXUAL ASSAULT STUDENT: There was 500 Plus, you know, parents, moms and dads, you know, trying to make sense of their radical perversion that they were trying to push in our schools. They're still trying to push it.

You know, just nothing -- you know, a year later, I've been involved in this for 18 months now. Nothing has changed.

Absolutely, nothing has changed.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: Caitlyn, what goes through your mind when you watch all of this that's still unfolding in Loudoun County?

CAITLYN JENNER, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CONTRIBUTOR (on camera): Well, it's a good day for parental rights. I agree with him. It's been 18 months, a very long time. Government moves very slowly.

But, congratulations to Governor Youngkin. I mean, he campaigned on this issue on parental rights. And -- but I think the key is here that he had an Attorney General Miyares, who was also on his side.

Too many times, you have Republican, you know, governor, and then he's got to work with the Attorney General who just wants to stall, and stall, and stall.

Even with two people working on this, it took me almost two years to be able to bring these charges forward.

Ziegler, who was the superintendent at the time. I mean, these are serious charges, misdemeanor for false statements. They even said in the thing that he lied.

Byard, if felony, perjury, serious charges. I'm glad to see that they're coming down on this.

I mean, I remember watching all these poor, you know, parents in the school board meetings, just overwhelmed with what was going on.

And just to remind people, this was a trans student who identified as female, and went in to the bathroom and sexually assaulted a young woman.

And the superintendent of schools and the school board totally buried this story. And so, they wanted to get rid of them, so they put them into another school.

And this -- the same child did it again, sexually assaulted a woman. And then, again, they tried to hide it up. And you saw the father there right there. I can't even imagine as a parent -- I'm a parent. I raised a lot of kids. I can't even imagine what the parents went through back then.

And hopefully now they're seeing a little bit of justice. But I see parental rights kind of on the move right now. I mean, look at what DeSantis did in Florida on parental rights.

And Governor Youngkin, what he is doing to try to clean this thing up. It's a big problem.

MACCALLUM: Yes.

JENNER: It's not easy to bring up children in this age but we don't need the government or school board being against us.

MACCALLUM: And then you had the head of the Department of Justice, Merrick Garland, saying that they needed to prepare to keep an eye on some of these parents, the FBI at the school board meetings. And that was very disturbing to a lot of people as well.

Caitlyn, it's always good to see you. Thank you so much for being here. We'll see you soon.

JENNER: Always, Martha.

MACCALLUM: You bet. Thank you.

So later this week, I will sit down with -- a one on one interview in Virginia with the governor there, Glenn Youngkin. And we're going to air that on Thursday here on THE STORY and we certainly will be talking about the actions that he has taken as governor to protect parental rights and other things about the future. So tune in for that with Glenn Youngkin later this week.

So disgrace crypto king known as SBF is now facing decades behind bars for committing what the feds are calling one of the greatest financial frauds in American history. Andy McCarthy up next.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOHN RAY III, FTX CEO: This is just taking money from customers and using it for your own purpose. This isn't even sophisticated whatsoever. This is just plain old embezzlement, old school, old school.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: So this is the armed security that is outside of the courthouse in the Bahamas where Sam Bankman-Fried is appearing today. Cameras catching the vehicle that carried him in today as he was indicted on a long list of fraud and money laundering charges as officials back here in the United States give an update on their investigation. Andy McCarthy joins us in just a moment but first to justice correspondent David Spunt. Hi, David.

DAVID SPUNT, FOX NEWS JUSTICE CORRESPONDENT: Hi, Martha. About a year ago, Sam Bankman-Fried said he had around \$20 billion with a B in the bank right now. He said he has around \$100,000, as you mentioned, he is in Bahamian custody. A local Bahamian prosecutor just hours ago, Martha, called him a flight risk.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DAMIAN WILLIAMS, US ATTORNEY: It's fair to say that by any anyone's life, this is one of the biggest financial frauds in American history.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SPUNT: That's US Attorney Damian Williams of Southern District of New York in Manhattan just about an hour and a half ago. Now, what's the reason that perhaps Bankman-Fried was arrested just hours before

he was set to testify even virtually before Congress because he may have been a flight risk where authorities nervous that maybe he possibly could get on a plane and head to another country. All legitimate questions we are asking about. But authorities not giving much, listen.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

WILLIAMS: Timing was dictated by law enforcement as opposed to any other considerations, including the timing of his testimony in Congress. He was wanted for arrest and we acted on that.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SPUNT: OK. So four of the eight charges include wire fraud, the others include commodities fraud, money laundering and violation of campaign finance laws. Authority say, Martha, he misused customer funds to get rich, line his pockets and also donate tens of millions of dollars in political contributions to buy influence in Washington, DC and beyond. Republicans and Democrats grill Bankman-Fried success for John Ray, the current CEO, court appointed CEO tasked with fixing things who explained the company's downfall this way.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

RAY: This is just plain old embezzlement. I've just never seen an utter lack of record keeping.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

SPUNT: Now the eight federal counts could leave Sam Bankman-Fried behind bars for 115 years as to when he'll come back to the United States to face those in person. It may take a few days or weeks the extradition process can take a long time depending on cooperation. Martha, I heard you earlier in the hour talk about people being anxious about him coming to the United States, things always seem to get delayed. But ultimately, the goal of the United States is to get him here as soon as possible. It just depends what his defense team does in the Bahamas to try and delay things because it looks like he's going to fight this.

MACCALLUM: Yes, it sure does. Thank you very much, David Spunt.

SPUNT: You're welcome.

MACCALLUM: So let's bring in Andy McCarthy, former federal prosecutor and Fox News contributor. Andy, great to have you with us today. Your piece today says, you know, you're not surprised about the charges that have been brought against him, but you were a bit surprised about the timing, which we just heard a little bit from the Southern District of New York in response to that. What do you say?

ANDY MCCARTHY, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: Well, I still think it's very curious, Martha. I would not have been worried that he was going to flee because it seems like there was very good coordination between the American authorities and the Bahamas authorities. They obviously got a sealed indictment, you know.

When you really panic that you think someone's going to take off, usually find a sworn quick statement by a federal law enforcement agent on a criminal complaint so that you can move fast. Here, they, you know, took their time and presented the case to a grand jury, and they were coordinating with the Bahamas government. So, you know, that's how they got the arrest warrant.

So if you have that kind of coordination, plus, you know the guy is on camera testifying in Congress, he's obviously not going anywhere when he's on camera. I just puzzled why they thought, you know, there are obviously things we don't know, but I'm puzzled if they were worried that he was about to flee. Why they thought that?

MACCALLUM: Yes. I mean, it seems -- he had an opportunity to flee for quite some time before he was arrested and he didn't. So that, I guess, speaks to that risk, although at that point, he was saying he didn't think he would be arrested. He said, I don't really think that they're going to bring charges against me, which is curious right now.

Here's what Jonathan Turley said about the timing of the arrest. I want to get your reaction to this, Andy.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JONATHAN TURLEY, CONSTITUTIONAL ATTORNEY: This is the first time in my memory that prosecutors or the defense attorney stop someone from making self incriminating statements. This was a windfall opportunity for the prosecutors. He was willing to go forward with hours of rather hostile cross examination on every detail in the case, why wouldn't you want that to happen? That's all admissible.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: You agree with that any?

MCCARTHY: I couldn't agree with Jonathan more on that. And the other thing I'd point out, Martha, is, Bankman-Fried has been, for the last several weeks, surprising us by giving a lot of these public statements. But this would have been under oath in front of Congress facing, you know, very hostile questioning, and why they would forego that opportunity. I mean, all they needed to do was wait a few hours and let them testify, and then you could pop them at that point. Why they felt like they need to do it before --

MACCALLUM: So why -- you know, give us your best guess. Why did they do that? Why did they rob everyone of the opportunity to see him under oath answering questions?

MCCARTHY: Yes. Well, if there was political influence here, I would imagine that since Bankman-Fried was a top Democratic donor, and a lot of the reporting has been that he's given like \$40 million to Democrats, and he's number two donor after Soros in the last cycle. They may not have wanted to listen to four hours of Republicans pointing out that all that money went to politicians, and they have that in their coffers. But in the meantime, the people from whom it was stolen have basically lost their shares, and don't have any prospect of being made whole.

Now, I should point out that Bankman-Fried says he also gave money to Republicans too, so this is not maybe as one side of the story as I've just suggested, but I do imagine that would have been a very uncomfortable subject for people at the hearing today.

MACCALLUM: Yes. You got to wonder about these investors who watched their money go into political coffers and whether or not they will have individual suits against him as well for misusing their funds for that purpose that they never intended to go to that. Andy, thank you. Always great to read what you've been writing about this case and have you on today. I appreciate it. Good to see you, Andy.

MCCARTHY: Thank you.

MACCALLUM: So a stunning new sign of Florida Governor Ron DeSantis' growing approval among Republican voters as he toppled former President Trump in a new poll. And Elon Musk trumps everyone on Twitter. Marc Thiessen and Dave Rubin after this.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: Take a look at this. Florida Governor Ron DeSantis trouncing former President Trump in a potential 2024 presidential primary matchup by more than 20 points according to this new polling out today by USA Today and Suffolk University. And check out this headline from earlier today as well from Rich Lowry in the New York Post, "Elon Musk has trumped Trump as America's foremost culture warrior.

Let's talk about all of this with Marc Thiessen, former chief speechwriter for President George W. Bush, now an American Enterprise Institute scholar and a Fox News contributor and Dave Rubin, host of "The Rubin Report." Gentlemen, great to have both of you with us.

You know, it's just one poll and it's not a huge sample from what we have looked at. But it also shows the head to head matchups, and it shows Biden would beat Trump according to their numbers 47 to 40. And then in a Biden- DeSantis matchup, DeSantis would have 47 and Biden 43. Marc, your take on that new poll today?

MARC THIESSEN, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: Yes. So, I mean, it should -- it's consistent with what we've been seeing, which is that there's been a precipitous drop in the number of Republicans who want Donald Trump to be the standard bearer in October 2021. It was 78% who wanted Trump to run again. And now in this poll 33%, low 30s.

And I think what's happening is that, a lot of Trump supporters are reluctantly coming to the conclusion after the 2022 midterms in particular that, look, he was an incredibly accomplished president. He did great things in office from the Abraham Accords, Operation Warp Speed, and all the rest of it. And he was treated unfairly by the media and by his adversaries in Congress. But he's made himself irreversibly toxic to swing voters and independents. And without those you can't win. And so they want to win.

And so, they look at Ron DeSantis, who just won Florida by 20 points, won Independents by 20 points, won women by seven points, won Hispanics by 14 points. And they look at that and they say here's a conservative who shares a lot of Trump's policies and a lot of -- and it goes against the woke agenda, just like Trump is he's counter-puncher, but he can win. So why don't we go with the guy who can win?

MACCALLUM: Yes. Ron DeSantis spoke to South Florida donors, Dave, and basically focused on the winning that that he has done over the course of the midterms. And the former President announced his run over a month ago has not really been out there, has been sort of under the radar since then. What's your take on where this stands, Dave?

DAVE RUBIN, HOST, "THE RUBIN REPORT": Well, look, you don't need polls or numbers to know that Ron DeSantis has basically done everything right. Yes, the 20 point win is great but it's indicative of what he's done on the ground, whether it's the absolutely remarkable cleanup from Hurricane Ian, to picking the battles correctly when it comes to the culture war, whether it's getting wokeness out of school, and fighting the nonsensical "don't say gay bill" and fighting Disney, and all of those things. He's doing the right thing. And he's actually showing I think other governors and other citizens in other states that there is a blueprint for a successful America.

Florida is absolutely flourishing. Everywhere you go. I happen to live in Miami, which was just voted the number one city in the United States to live and work. But everywhere you go in this state, they are building new roads, they are building new houses. The speed at which we rebuilt the Sanibel Causeway, which should have taken probably two years, DeSantis got rid of the red tape. It took two weeks. So he's doing everything right. The proof is in the pudding. And I think people want competency more than anything else.

And just one other thing. Just this morning, I was at the event that the governor held for the Florida Public Health Integrity Committee. He's even fighting the CDC and the NIH, and making sure people are held responsible for their malfeasance related to COVID. So he's picking the right battles and he's got a great staff around him. And I think that's what this is about, way more than it's about Trump.

MACCALLUM: All right. Let me turn your attention to Elon Musk, because, you know, when you look at the space that he is sort of dominating right now. It is the space that the former President always dominated, Mark. You know, everybody would hang on this tweet and that tweet, and what's coming up. And now that's what you hear the conversation, you know, oh, did you see Elon Musk's latest tweet, right?

And you also see him doing the kind of things that the former president used to do, which is to, you know, things like prosecute Fauci, right? He's sort of throwing bombs on Twitter to make his points. And he actually owns Twitter. Doesn't just own the space, he actually does own the company and is responsible for trying to bring it back to life or to try to get it into a profit maker. So part of that's at work here as well. Do you think -- do you agree with Rich Lowry's piece here today, Marc?

THIESSEN: Yes. So I think it's a little bit different. So Trump basically went out and talked about the fake news media, and then lashed against social media and the bias and everything like that. What Elon Musk did is he spent \$44 billion to buy Twitter and lift the hood up to show us what's going on inside. So he's not just alleging these things, he's proving them. He's putting stuff out.

I mean, it's maybe one of the most patriotic things anyone's ever done, is to buy -- to spend that much money to buy Twitter and show us the insight of how this shadow banning happened, how this suppression of the Hunter Biden laptop story happened, how they talk to each other about what they were doing, and why they did it.

It's qualitatively different in that sense, and it's -- he's a great patriot. I'm so grateful for him.

MACCALLUM: It's really (inaudible). Thank you, both, for being here. Yes, it is very interesting to see what -- he said he didn't care about what it cost to buy it, that it was about the future of the country and democracy. So far he seems to be putting that into action. We'll see where it goes. Thank you, Dave, great to see you today.

RUBIN: Great to be the richest guy in America.

MACCALLUM: Yes, right? It is, right? I mean, we wouldn't know but I suppose it is. Thank you guys very much, Marc and Dave. Good to see you.

So a desperate search for answers, and when an American student studying abroad in France mysteriously disappears after being spotted last 10 days ago.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: Troubling story for parents here. He was supposed to be home for Christmas in a few days, but an American college student vanished while studying in France and his family has not heard from him for more than two weeks now. Correspondent David Lee Miller has this story for us. Hi, David Lee.

DAVID LEE MILLER, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: You know, Martha, the family of Ken DeLand not only worried about his disappearance but they're also very frustrated that they have very little information

about what's being done to bring him home. Relative say because DeLand is 22, an adult, privacy law restricts what they are being told.

Now the Rochester New York Area College student last spotted on a security camera on December 3 at a sporting goods store about 100 miles from where he'd been living. DeLand had been attending a university and living with a local family in the city of Grenoble at the foot of the French Alps. A prosecutor in the city says DeLand may have left voluntarily, adding that DeLand had told several people he had a hard time making friends. It is believed he took a train to the city of Valence where his cell phone signal was last detected.

According to his family, DeLand last communication with them was on November 27th. It was a text and they say everything sounded normal. Two days later, after he failed to show up for class, the school filed a missing person's report. A portion of that report says DeLand is, and I quote now, in a fragile mood and maybe depressed. Relative say he left most of his belongings behind and only took a small bag. According to his father, the weeks of silence are very worrying.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KEN DELAND SR., MISSING STUDENT'S FATHER: In my gut says he's safe but I just can't get my head wrapped around why he hasn't reached out. And that's what puts the fear factor really in your gut as to the whereabouts and the safety of your child.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MILLER: DeLand's student visa expires in just over one month. And, Martha, his family has posted a bilingual website trying to raise awareness about the situation and for people to notify them if in fact anyone has seen his whereabouts.

MACCALLUM: Yes. Of course they're just worried sick. Hopefully they'll get some resolution on this soon. Thank you, David Lee.

So people in Philadelphia can see their statue of Christopher Columbus once again for the first time in two years. It was covered with a plywood box that painted in the colors of the Italian flag after protests pour against Columbus turned violent. A court gave go ahead and remove the box and Columbus is now visible again.

The mayor actually tried to take down the statue. He says he's now considering his other options but for now Columbus is safe and visible in this City of Brotherly Love.

So that is THE STORY for this Tuesday, December the 13th. But as always, THE STORY goes on. Thanks for being with us today, everybody. Great to see you. We'll see you back here tomorrow.

END

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HD Interview With Sen. John Barrasso (R-WY); Idaho Murder Investigation; Interview With Rep. Kevin Brady (R-TX); Border Battle; Interview With Rep. Lee Zeldin (R-NY); Interview With Rep. Stephen Lynch (D-MA); Inflation Cooling; **Sam Bankman-Fried Indicted**

BY Neil Cavuto, Alexis McAdams, Jacqui Heinrich, Bill Melugin, Kelly O'Grady, Gerry Baker, Brian Brenberg

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SC CAVU

LA English

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LP

NEIL CAVUTO, FOX NEWS ANCHOR: So, you think we are over the worst for inflation? Well, so did investors, for a while. So what happened?

And think this one-time crypto king's future couldn't look any worse? Today, let's just say it got worse. I mean a whole lot worse. FOX on top of the prices we pay and the price this guy could be about to pay. We report on what's coming up, and exactly who is going down.

TD

First things first on inflation and hopes things are getting better and old. He goes the price we all pay for things went up only 7.1 percent last month. Now, economists had expected something much higher.

But, as our Brian Brenberg reminds me, that inflation number still has a 7 in front of it, which could explain why stocks were up nearly 800 points when the markets first opened, only to close up a fraction of that when the markets were closed.

Welcome, everybody. I'm Neil Cavuto. I think they call this a crazy day. You're watching "Your World."

And what in the world to make of a market that collectively looked and rejoice that a retail inflation report that looked good because the pressures were coming down, and then reassessed that, assessing, possibly, they are not coming down. Class is not dismissed, because the professor is in.

Brian Brenberg on what to make of this.

Brian, when you were with me on FBN, you were telling me, maybe it's because it had a 7 in front of it. And I thought to myself, that was brilliant, because that's exactly what dawned on people. It's still a bad number, right?

BRIAN BRENBURG, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: I love the number seven. Mickey Mantle was number seven. John Elway was number seven.

But if you have got a 7 on your inflation number, it's still a problem.

CAVUTO: Not good.

BRENBURG: So the market sees a number that's coming in below expectations. That's great.

But how do we get down to 2, Neil? We have got to see a 2 in front of that number. And there's a really long way to go. And the Fed is now maybe going to ease off those interest rate increases just a little bit, maybe a half- point tomorrow, instead of 75 basis points.

But you look into the new year, how many of these smaller rate hikes are we going to get? And, look, if you want to buy a home, if you're in that market, if you're sort of a Main Street person thinking, I need to borrow to buy the things that help me run my business or run my life, you're saying things could continue to get dicey for me.

So that becomes a story not of how badly inflation is hitting you, but how bad a slowing economy hits you. And that, I think, is the next real leg of this story.

CAVUTO: You know, Brian, what's kind of interesting too -- and you touched on it -- the Federal Reserve wraps up a two-day meeting tomorrow. They are expected to raise rates, maybe not the three-quarter-point hikes we have seen over the last four meetings, but still a big one, half-a-point.

BRENNBERG: Right.

CAVUTO: And that means we have essentially gone from zero interest rates at the start of the year to close to 4 percent when all is said and done, maybe even higher. Where do you see all this going?

BRENNBERG: Well, this is the real X-factor. I think this is why markets rally and then they pull back.

How high do you have to go to bring 7 percent inflation down? Now, the market is kind of betting, once you get into the 6's, the Fed's going to quit. But I think that's a question of where we find ourselves mid next year.

The president is very confident that his economic plan is working, that inflation is going to be under control by the end of next year. But if you actually look at what's going on in this economy, there are a lot of economists out there saying it's very much an open question by mid next year just how high inflation is going to be.

And this, to me, is the scariest part, Neil. We get down a little bit more, maybe into that 5, 6 percent range, and then we start to move sideways, because, at that point, the Fed can't crush demand enough to get inflation down. We need a supply increase.

We need this economy to get going. The problem right now is, we have a very low productivity economy. We saw last year one of the worst productivity numbers we have ever seen. This economy needs juice, OK? It can't keep running on the president's plan. It needs something better and more than that.

I think the thing it needs is a real renaissance in fossil fuel production in this country and an all-in policy on energy. We're not getting that right now. And I think that's kind of the reinvention that gets us back into a stronger leg. I just don't know that this president's got the guts to turn against his support base and do that kind of thing.

CAVUTO: I was just thinking, Brian, if we had your new show, which a lot of people don't realize is going to start on FOX Business Network...

BRENNBERG: Yes.

CAVUTO: If you had the big money show starting now, 1:00 p.m. Eastern time, by the way, on January 23, they're taking over my second hour on the network, so I have a longer lunch period. So I will be three martinis in by the time I get to this show.

But what sounds great about that show, Brian, and working on Jackie DeAngelis and Taylor Riggs, of course, from Bloomberg, is that you will get a chance to get into these big money issues, because this is the stuff that people are talking about.

BRENNBERG: You know what? I would love that, Neil.

By the way, you have given us huge shoes to fill. We're going to do our very best to make that happen. But I am working with some very smart people on the show. Your viewers know Jackie DeAngelis. She is an energy expert.

CAVUTO: Absolutely.

BRENNBERG: That is going to be the issue going forward next year.

Taylor Riggs, a financial whiz. My job is to try to keep up, Neil. That's my only job right now. I don't want to be the weight that slows down this team. So, I'm going to be training over Christmas to do that.

CAVUTO: I don't think you have to worry about that.

But, man, oh, man, I'm looking for the long lunch just to take all of that in, because that sounds good.

By the way, in addition to the good professor, what's happening, "The Bottom Line" on the same day debuts on FOX Business Network...

BRENNBERG: Yes.

CAVUTO: ... 6:00 p.m. Eastern time with Dagen McDowell and Sean Duffy. Talk about some pretty strong personalities.

And, of course, Elizabeth "Wicked" MacDonald, so smart on "The Evening Edit," will move down to 5:00 p.m. to accommodate all these big changes. Lots to look forward to.

BRENNBERG: Yes.

CAVUTO: Your money, your life, the big money, all of that, looking forward to it.

Professor, always good seeing you, my friend.

BRENNBERG: Thank you, Neil.

CAVUTO: In the meantime, some of the big developments, concerned what the president is saying about all of this, especially on the inflation front, and Karl Rove had to say a little bit about misplaced optimism. Take a look.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KARL ROVE, FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR: This is the guy who said it would be -- inflation was not a problem and would be transitory. And it's turned out to be far more difficult to turn back. And we're still at an annual rate of 7.1 percent. The target is 2 percent.

So we got a long way to go. And I'm glad to that he can wave his -- wave his wand and suggest that everything's going to be hunky-dory next year. He already did that last year. And it didn't turn out to be a very hunky-dory year for us when it came to dealing with inflation.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CAVUTO: So, essentially, what Karl Rove is saying that he might be optimistic things stabilize by next year at this time, but, as Gerry Baker can tell you, his track record on predictions, like many economists, isn't exactly 20/20.

Let's get the read from all of this right now with Gerry Baker, his read on exactly what the president saying, and, Gerry, whether you buy it.

What do you think?

GERRY BAKER, HOST, "WALL STREET JOURNAL AT LARGE": No.

I mean, look, the -- you're absolutely right and Karl Rove is right. The president got inflation wrong. Obviously, so did the Federal Reserve. Look, I think the challenge, Neil -- and Brian touched on this a little bit in his remarks -- is, we don't right yet know, we're not -- we can't be clear what's happening with inflation.

It is good that it's down. It is still above 7 percent. The big question, I think, is the problem that the Fed faces with wage increases. Wage increases are now accelerating. They're rising steadily. We always expected the headline rate of inflation to come down, because that was driven heavily by energy prices. Energy prices have come down. Some food prices, commodity prices have come down.

The threat always was the extent to which those inflationary expectations got embedded in people's minds. And that would then affect wage increases, which companies would then have to reflect in price increases, and we aren't going to see that.

So I think it's very uncertain what happens to inflation, how long it takes to get it down to a reasonable level. The flip side also, of course, is that, even if inflation is coming down, it's coming down in large part because the Fed is also raising interest rates aggressively in a way that's very likely to push the economy into recession.

CAVUTO: Right.

BAKER: I was talking to a leading investor yesterday who says...

CAVUTO: But, Gerry, you know what is weird about it?

And I know you -- I know you explore this on your "Wall Street Journal" show. But one thing that fascinates me, earnings don't matter. Consumer sentiment surveys don't matter. But a number on inflation that

appears to be a tad better than what they felt would be the case, that matters, which tells you all you need to know about what's gripping everyone's attention from Main Street to Wall Street: When will these rate hikes stop, right?

BAKER: Well, I mean, you saw what happened to the bond market today.

The 10-year yield was down quite significantly. It's back down to about 3.5 percent now, its lowest level in several months.

CAVUTO: Right.

BAKER: That's an indication that the market thinks that, actually, the Fed is probably close to having done enough, because it's, frankly, with 10-year bond yields where they are and two-year Treasury note yields where they are, that's reflective that inflation is going to come down quite sharply, growth is going to come down quite sharply.

In fact, people are expecting a recession. The markets are generally expecting, most businesses are expecting a recession. So, I think, again, we're in this position here for President Biden, the politics of this are, we're either going to continue dealing with elevated inflation. We may continue to deal with that anyway. Or we're going to have -- we're going to have a recession.

So, while the economic outlook is uncertain, the political consequences, I think, are quite severe. Now, there's nothing, frankly, in the short term the administration can do about inflation. Maybe, if there is a recession, we can see some -- we might see some stimulus.

But it's a really -- it's a deep bind right now that the administration finds itself in. Look, they come out of these midterm elections feeling pretty good about themselves. They increased their majority in the Senate, kept the Republican majority in the House to a very small number.

But I think they're entering probably the trickiest part now of the economic environment that we have been facing that is going to -- again, this tension between inflation and recession is really going to be felt in the course of the next year.

CAVUTO: Very well put my friend, Gerry Baker, the host of "Wall Street Journal at Large With Gerry Baker," also on FOX Business, by the way.

Now to Kelly O'Grady on the other big story of the day, a wunderkind. It's a wonder he got by so many people so easily and for so long. He could be spending a long, long time in jail.

Kelly O'Grady on that -- Kelly.

KELLY O'GRADY, FOX BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT: Yes.

Neil, we have been talking about this for weeks, right? I mean, SBF is finally arrested. He's appearing at a court hearing in the Bahamas today. And we're actually learning SBF's lawyer is asking for \$250,000 of bail. The prosecution is arguing that he's actually a flight risk, and he should be held without bail if he opposes extradition efforts.

Now, he's facing a number of legal challenges and investigations I want to run through. So, both the CFTC and the SEC bringing four suits today. The latter is accusing the former CEO of swindling equity investors and FTX out of nearly \$2 billion.

And, of course, the big one, the U.S. attorney's office of the Southern District of New York filing criminal charges. That indictment was unsealed today, revealing the former crypto king is facing eight counts. So they range from wire fraud and conspiracy to commit securities fraud to violating campaign finance law.

I just got off the phone with a lead witness in the Madoff case, Bruce Dubinsky and he shared that the wire fraud and money laundering charges will be the easiest to prove, especially with the evidence that the new FTX management is bringing forth.

Now, just an hour ago, the SDNY did wrap a press conference. They discussed these charges. My biggest takeaway is, to them, fraud is fraud.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MICHAEL DRISCOLL, ASSISTANT SPECIAL FBI AGENT IN CHARGE: This case is about fraud. Fraud is fraud. It does not matter the complexity of the investment scheme. It does not matter the amount of money involved.

If you mislead and deceive to take what does not belong to you, we will hold you accountable.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

O'GRADY: I mean, that was pretty powerful, right?

And there's been a lot of criticism surrounding the speed of the charges, that investigators were too slow to indict the former CEO or, conversely, that this case is just simply too complicated to fully understand what crimes SBF committed.

But that statement, it shows you they're really looking to make an example of SBF. Neil, by the way, we're hearing that, if he were to be indicted or, rather, convicted of everything, he would face up to 115 years in prison. Imagine that.

CAVUTO: Wow. Remember, not too long ago, he was an international rock star, I guess no longer.

Kelly, thank you very, very much.

Well, this was to be the day that Sam Bankman-Fried was to testify before the House Financial Services Committee. All was set. And then he was arrested at the Bahamas, where his exchange is located and where his home is located, robbing a key conservative player and a key Democratic player of the chance to know what really was going on.

They're upset, and they're both here.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOHN RAY, CEO, FTX: This is really old-fashioned embezzlement. This is just taking money from customers and using it for your own purpose.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CAVUTO: And that could be just the beginning, eight counts, including wire fraud, securities fraud and misappropriating funds.

And on and on it goes, and, as we have discussed, something that could allow this Internet or Bitcoin wunderkind to be behind bars maybe for the rest of his life, if proven all true.

But Congressman Lee Zeldin was at this gathering today that had these questions back and forth for the new CEO. But what's interesting, and the congressman brought out -- we're going to bring it out with a Democratic colleague -- it was supposed to be Bankman-Smith (sic) himself, and he wasn't there.

And they robbed you of a chance to ask him some questions you wanted asked, didn't they?

REP. LEE ZELDIN (R-NY): Neil, listen, I thought it would have been very helpful if, over the course of hours, you had all members of the House Financial Services Committee on the Republican side and Democratic side to be able to ask questions.

What was released over the course of today was the testimony that Sam Bankman-Fried was going to offer, but then he would have been asked questions as a follow-up. I would love to ask him questions related to corporate governance, risk management, auditing.

He says in his testimony that 25 percent of his time was spent interacting with policymakers and regulators. The question is, with who and what? What are you trying to get from it? You trying to get some light touch regulation on the industry? Well, what was it specifically? Who were you meeting with to advocate for it?

Now, I don't find it a coincidence that he was arrested last night. It did deprive the opportunity of these questions to be asked over the course of these hours. And if you're trying to put together a case against Sam Bankman-Fried, why not let him take the oath today, answer the questions for hours, and then arrest him? Who knows what else you might learn over the course of today's questions?

CAVUTO: Yes.

Another thing, Congressman Zeldin, they were all slapping themselves on the back and giving themselves high-fives for bringing him down, supposedly. He brought himself down. This wasn't exactly any Clouseau research and investigations on their own that led to this.

But the timing of it is odd. Was that ever explained to you, that they couldn't do this a day later?

ZELDIN: That has not been explained to me. And I haven't heard anyone argue that the timing is a coincidence.

Maybe, at some point today, that was said, and I had heard it. But no one's mentioned that to me. And being able to get into the weeds -- for example, Sam Bankman-Fried is saying that, in late 2021, that Alameda Research had 90 percent net assets on what they had taken out. And yet, in a few days at the beginning of November, they saw a hit of about 50 percent.

Well, I asked John Ray, who's the new CEO under the Chapter 11 bankruptcy, what he has learned so far. And they're early in their process. And we need more information of, well, what happened between late November 20 -- late 2021 and November of 2022? Did Alameda Research's net market value of assets go down, any other red flags?

What was happening internally? If I'm -- I mean, I'm a former prosecutor. If I'm the one responsible to be able to bring the charges in this case and to prove it in court, I would love to have that person that we're going after that take the oath today in front of Congress, and just offer up all sorts of new detail.

So, I think that, for one example, the relationship between Sam Bankman-Fried and the chair of the SEC, Gary Gensler, they were meeting. They were working together. Maybe there are questions that were going to get asked that the government didn't want.

But I don't want to start speculating as to what the motivations were, because we don't know. I just believe that the timing wasn't a coincidence.

CAVUTO: You know, speaking of timing, if you don't mind, Congressman Zeldin, you had said that you don't want Ronna McDaniel to stay as the RNC chair. You were not interested in running for the job yourself.

You still feel that way?

ZELDIN: I believe that we need new leadership at the RNC. I believe that this is an opportunity for the party to be able to grow, to improve messaging, and not just articulating what we're against, Joe Biden bad, Democratic Party bad.

Let's talk about what we're going to do differently when you're trying to elect a Republican president in 2024 and Republicans to Congress. There's a lot more that the party can do to be able to reach out to Democrats and ticket-splitters, while trying to energize the base. There's so much at stake in 2024.

And I believe that having fresh blood and new leadership is an opportunity for our party that we should be seizing upon, and that Ronna McDaniel, who I got along with just fine -- it's not personal to her. I just don't believe that she should be running for a fourth term. It's time to have somebody new in.

CAVUTO: All right. There have been many who contacted you, I know, over the last few days to get you to change your mind.

I take it you have not?

ZELDIN: I believe that, as long as Ronna McDaniel is running for a fourth term, that this is predetermined, it's prebaked.

I spent 2.5 weeks making a lot of calls to see where people stood. And I think, by design, if she is running again for a fourth term, she's got it.

CAVUTO: All right. We will watch it very closely.

Congressman Zeldin, always good seeing you. Thank you, sir.

ZELDIN: Thank you, Neil.

CAVUTO: Well, there was some bipartisan anger on the opportunities that never presented themselves for Bankman-Fried to appear before the House Financial Services Committee, including my next guest, Massachusetts Democrat Stephen Lynch.

Congressman, very good to have you.

Frustrated?

REP. STEPHEN LYNCH (D-MA): Oh, yes. Oh, yes.

We had prepared. And, apparently, we did get a copy. Someone leaked the testimony of Sam Bankman-Fried to the -- to Forbes. And so we did get a copy of what he was going to argue. But that just gave rise to 1,000 other questions. He basically said, this is an accident, this was a mistake, and he never intended to defraud anyone.

But when you line up what he did vs. what he said, obviously, there's a huge gap there.

CAVUTO: So, you had no idea that he was going to be arrested, that he was going to be seized, and all of this, oddly, mere hours, 24 hours, before you and your colleagues were to talk to him.

Are you angry?

LYNCH: Of course.

Now, I have heard that people were afraid -- because we asked that same question about having him testify. Then we would lock in his testimony. It might be useful to the prosecutors. He has said some things in the open press that I think had been damaging to his cause, but have -- at least they were giving -- giving us answers.

But there was the outstanding concern that he might flee. I'm not sure if we had eyes on him, whether the Bahamian government had eyes on him, and also the fluid nature of cryptocurrency. Even after FTX failed, another billion dollars was taken out of the company that won't be available immediately to creditors or customers or investors.

So, those two -- those two factors might have led them to act sooner, rather than later.

CAVUTO: Congressman, many are talking about government lawyers and security experts who were high-fiving each other for taking this guy.

Didn't -- didn't Bankman-Fried bring himself down? Didn't he collapse himself?

LYNCH: Yes.

I mean, basically, these were self-inflicted wounds. He did operate for a while, though, when you think about it, without being detected, so -- some of these transfers. And that was one of the things that the new CEO hit upon today.

They talked about the lack of documents, the lack of business records throughout the transfer. So, he basically took in \$1.8 billion from equity investors, and then immediately transferred that to his hedge fund, Alameda. And all that was going on for a considerable amount of time, and it was undetected.

So, I don't know how long it took for him to take himself down. But there was definitely a lack of oversight that contributed to this as well.

CAVUTO: Congressman Lynch, thank you for taking the time. We do appreciate it, sir.

LYNCH: Thank you.

CAVUTO: All right, in the meantime, eight days until own Title 42 goes away.

But, of course, looking at the border these days and what's going on, what do we have to look forward to or not look forward to?

Bill Melugin is in La Joya, Texas -- Bill.

BILL MELUGIN, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Neil, good afternoon to you.

Border Patrol in El Paso, Texas, are completely overwhelmed as they are dealing with thousands of illegal crossings every day. Coming up right after the break, another large group just crossed. We will show you the situation there right after the break.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAVUTO: President Biden just moments ago signing a law that will codify same-sex and interracial marriages, with a large celebration at the White House. He says now this makes it law.

We'll have more after this.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAVUTO: All right, eight days until Title 42 goes away, and the homeland security secretary, Alejandro Mayorkas, on the ground in El Paso to get a layout of things.

But the bottom line, a little more than a week, and no signs that things will be changing to reverse any of this.

Bill Melugin in La Joya, Texas with more -- Bill.

MELUGIN: Neil, good afternoon to you.

Border Patrol in El Paso Texas right now are currently so overwhelmed that CBP are calling in agents from other Border Patrol sectors to come into El Paso and help with the processing. And we will show you what's going on there right now. Take a look at this video our team just got in within the last hour-ish or so showing the situation the ground, as several hundred migrants are in a long line after they have crossed illegally.

And they're waiting to be processed by Border Patrol in El Paso right now. You can see that long line going pretty much as far as the eye can see, as they turn themselves in hoping to be released into the United States.

And take a look at this video we shot in El Paso last night. Because of how overwhelmed Border Patrol is, they have started mass releasing migrants to city streets in El Paso. On just one little street corner, we found dozens of migrants sleeping on the ground, standing around, camping out in the cold.

These migrants are essentially homeless now. They have got nowhere to go, as all Border Patrol facilities and local NGOs are completely over capacity right now.

Mass release is under way in Brownsville, Texas, as well. Take a look at this third piece of video. We went back to Brownsville, where once again we witnessed bus after bus after bus of these mass releases, hundreds of migrants being dropped off by Border Patrol at a parking garage in downtown Brownsville.

They are then walked across in a single file line to an NGO right next to that garage. That NGO helps the migrants with their travel documents and they are then free to go. They go to the airport or they go to the bus station and they are free to travel anywhere they want to in the United States, as catch and release is in full effect down there.

Then we will take you to Matamoros, Mexico. Take a look at this video. That is the Mexican border city directly across from Brownsville, where there are thousands of migrants waiting for Title 42 to drop eight days from now. FOX News cameras seeing hundreds of migrants standing around on city streets, some of them camping out in public parks, as they are counting down, as are U.S. authorities, for the end of Title 42 next week.

And back out here live, DHS is reportedly going to be asking for billions of dollars for Congress, the Biden administration to help with processing, transport and migrant care. And they're projecting upwards of 9,000 to 15,000 illegal crossings every day once Title 42 drops, according to a congressional aide to FOX News, Neil.

So buckle up.

CAVUTO: You know what's amazing, as you have been reporting, Bill, the numbers are already staggering. That is with Title 42 still on. It just makes you wonder what happens when it's gone.

MELUGIN: Yes. Yes, absolutely.

The numbers we're seeing right now, daily illegal crossings of between 7,000 and 8,000. And that is with Title 42 still in place. It's pretty crazy to think about the fact that those numbers could potentially almost double a week or two from now once Title 42 goes away, because the system is stretched and it's broken in multiple sectors right now.

It's hard to imagine what things will be like if the numbers start doubling, Neil.

CAVUTO: Bill Melugin, thank you for that.

Bill Melugin at the border.

In the meantime, did John Kirby hint yesterday in an interview with me that there is the possibility of a Hail Mary pass, an extension of Title 42?

Take a listen.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CAVUTO: But it will expire? Title 42 will expire?

JOHN KIRBY, NSC COORDINATOR FOR STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS: Again, I'm not going to get ahead of where we are right now here on the 12th, Neil.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CAVUTO: Title 42 goes away. In little more than 11 days, it's gone. It's not being extended, am I right to read it that way?

KIRBY: Well, I think Mr. Sullivan was making it clear that, regardless of the deadline, that we're going to -- we're going to make sure that, going forward, that we have got the systems and processes in place to do the right thing for border security.

CAVUTO: But it will expire? Title 42 will expire?

KIRBY: Again, I'm not going to get ahead of where we are right now here on the 12th, Neil.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CAVUTO: All right, well, a lot of people are holding out hope that it will be extended, even though that does not look likely.

In the meantime, the administration has committed reportedly up to \$4 billion to deal with the aftermath if indeed it does go away.

Jacqui Heinrich has more from the White House.

Hey, Jacqui.

JACQUI HEINRICH, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Hey, Neil.

Yes, as you just played, just yesterday, the president's national security adviser said that we would be hearing more in the coming days about what systems exactly are going to be in place when Title 42 expires eight days from now.

Now, today, we didn't hear any of that, no significant new information for how they're going to address that coming surge. But we did learn that the White House is trying to tackle what they call misinformation that the border is open.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KARINE JEAN-PIERRE, WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY: We're working to combat misinformation from smugglers. And, as we -- as was the case before Title 42 and remain the case after it, individuals who attempt to cross the border unlawfully and don't have a legal basis to remain will be subject to removal.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HEINRICH: We're told Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas is in El Paso. He's meeting with local officials to decompress a surge of migrants mostly from Nicaragua that crossed into the area on Sunday night.

And that is serving as sort of a preview of what we might see in the coming days, with reports of as many as 47,000 waiting to get in. Now a couple of Democratic lawmakers are making a last-ditch plea with their Republican colleagues for the Biden administration to extend the pandemic era public health policy.

Senator Joe Manchin and Congressman Henry Cuellar joining their Republican colleagues in imploring the administration that -- quote -- "DHS has not outlined a viable plan to maintain operational control of the Southern border. This situation is untenable, and we must work together to keep in place DHS' authority to quickly expel migrants until an acceptable set of alternative policies and resources is in place."

Karine Jean-Pierre said that the administration is under court order to lift Title 42 by December 21. She would not weigh in on what happens next and said that's up to the DOJ. She also refused to weigh in on those calls from Congress to extend the deadline.

But there has been word around here for months, whispers around here for months that some in the West Wing would really like for that to happen, because there isn't a good enough policy in place to take its place when it's lifted. They're still hashing out what that system is going to be, as you heard from the podium today and yesterday. So you can understand why some in the West Wing might have that sentiment.

The administration has been almost entirely reliant on Title 42 to control migration from Mexico and Northern Triangle countries, according to recent court filings that some of these Democrat lawmakers are now waving around as they call for an extension, Neil.

CAVUTO: I'm just curious, and we have gotten into this before, Jackie, whether Title 42, which in this unique route was a Trump idea. That's the reason it stuck in their craw not to extend it, that that's something Donald Trump did. That's something we're not going to do.

HEINRICH: Well, it's not what they say.

What they say publicly is that this was a pandemic era policy. But you can slice that any number of ways. Sometimes, they talk about the pandemic being over and, sometimes it is -- it's still -- it's still around, for instance, in order to cancel student debt.

So I guess it depends on what you're talking about.

CAVUTO: That is a brilliant and judicious response, young lady.

(LAUGHTER)

CAVUTO: Thank you very much for that. Well played. Well played, Jacqui Heinrich on that.

We have got Texas Congressman Kevin Brady with us right now.

It doesn't look like they will extend it. Maybe we will get a surprise. But I will ask you what I just asked Jacqui, whether what sticks in the craw is that this creative use of Title 42 to adjudicate these cases on the other side of the border is a Trump idea, and they want nothing to do with it.

REP. KEVIN BRADY (R-TX): Yes, that's it, Neil. That's essentially it.

And, look, I can't describe to you how bad things are on the border. And it has been, obviously, for the last almost two years. But, more recently, it's just indescribable, and the morale of the Border Patrol, the communities that have just been beaten down along the border.

And, this morning in Texas, there are 300,000 young people in the sex slave industry, in good part because of our proximity and the contributions of an open border. So this is such a huge crisis. And I know the president's announced another trip, I think, to Africa going forward.

But we would just like him to stop at his own Southern border and see what a crisis he's created there.

CAVUTO: You know, everyone but him has, though. I mean, Homeland Security Secretary Mayorkas was back here. I don't know what he was able to accomplish up.

We do know that Gavin Newsom now used the wall as a backdrop to talk about the importance of what's going on there. More and more Democrats, Congressman, I'm getting a sense, have an appreciation for the magnitude of the problem, save the president himself.

BRADY: Yes.

No, I was just -- I was kind of laughing when you said -- I didn't realize Governor Newsom was going there. I was thinking you were referencing a wall he may need to build the keep Californians in.

CAVUTO: Yes.

BRADY: Because, certainly, in Texas, we are getting a whole lot of folks from his state, and they seem to enjoy ours.

CAVUTO: I'm wondering where all of this goes.

Let's say they come to some sort of an agreement, Title 42 goes away, they're committing \$4 billion to deal with the aftermath of that. Obviously, they know that there's going to be a flood of people, right?

BRADY: Yes, there really is.

And I think -- and so there's a solution here. And I don't know if the Biden administration will ever work with us. But the Texas Republican delegation, which is, I think the most experienced and knowledgeable about the border and the impacts, this recent week announced a plan to close the Texas borders and deal with the infrastructure there on the border, to fix the policies, immigration policies at the border.

Let ICE do its job, which is a national security issue, and then deal with the criminal cartels and drugs, gangs there. It really is a very commonsense approach to this. And I think the president, if he was ever willing to acknowledge the humanitarian and national security crisis, these are commonsense steps he could make.

CAVUTO: All right, we will watch it closely.

Kevin Brady, always good talking to you, Congressman. Thank you very, very much.

BRADY: Thanks, Neil. Take care.

CAVUTO: All right. Thank you.

Alexis McAdams has some interesting news in Idaho on maybe a potentially a breakthrough in that college student Idaho murder case, more than a month- old at this point -- Alexis.

ALEXIS MCADAMS, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Hi, Neil.

Yes, more than a month in here in Moscow, Idaho, and we're now seeing this video surveillance that we will get to in a second, but also police body camera footage that shows some interesting movement around the time of the murders at that home behind me.

I'm Alexis McAdams. We will show you that video coming up next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAVUTO: All right, let's go back to Alexis McAdams right now in Idaho with new developments in those students murdered some one month ago.

What are we learning, Alexis?

MCADAMS: Hi, Neil.

Yes, we were able to take a closer look at police body camera footage from the Moscow Police Department. And in that video, you can see a group of people walking near the home behind me around the time of the murders.

Take a look here. You can see in this video clip released by the Moscow Police Department officers there questioning those students suspected of underage drinking.

But if you can zoom in there, you can see in the background tipsters spotted there -- spotted a group of people, rather, walking by. That was all caught on camera, Neil, around 3:12 in the morning. That puts this group of people and police just steps from the home in that time frame that the coroner says these four students were stabbed to death.

The department says they have analyzed that video and are working to get more answers. Now, FOX News Digital just got this exclusive photo of a similar white sedan that police have been looking for spotted on a local gas station camera around 3:45 the morning of the murders.

Police just went in and pulled that tape today.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

ROBBIE JOHNSON, PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER, MOSCOW POLICE DEPARTMENT: The bodycam footage, the people seated in the back, you never know if that's going to be part of the investigation or connected.

So we want that type of material, so we can make that judgment with our experts and the FBI assistants.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MCADAMS: Police have also pulled video surveillance from this local bar called the Corner Club. That's where Maddie and Kaylee were the night just hours before they were killed.

And they also downloaded hours of video evidence from another gas station that was just a half-a-mile from the murder scene. Right now, investigators are trying to track down a white Hyundai Elantra that was spotted near the home around the time of the murder -- murders, rather. They think it's a 2011 to 2013 model.

And back out here live, that is really a big piece of evidence that FOX News Digital, Neil, was able to get out here in this investigation. It shows you how big it is by police going back out there this afternoon and trying to get hours of that video to see if it could be that white Hyundai Elantra they have been looking for.

One more piece to mention here in this case that keeps developing is that the coroner tells us the victims' hands were bagged here at the scene. They put paper bags to preserve any DNA evidence. That means they believe that those victims could have the killer's DNA under their finger nails -- Neil.

CAVUTO: Incredible.

Alexis, thank you for that update. Keep us posted.

In the meantime, we could be looking at a government shutdown this weekend, right in the middle of all of this -- after this.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAVUTO: Could we have a government shutdown this weekend? Well, time is getting kind of precious here. An omnibus spending bill is kind of on the line here, big differences between the parties how to handle it.

Senator John Barrasso kind enough to join us, the Wyoming Republican and Senate GOP Conference chair.

Senator, good to have you back. Thank you.

SEN. JOHN BARRASSO (R-WY): Thank you, Neil.

CAVUTO: Where do things stand now?

BARRASSO: Well, we need a couple of things.

One is, we need to end this wasteful Washington spending. And at the same time, we need to fund the government. So there are a couple of ways to do it. But a government shutdown isn't going to happen.

The thing with all of this wasteful spending, and you have seen a lot of it in the last two years, is, it's brought us these record numbers, 40-year- high inflation. You saw the president talk about it today. Since he's been in office, prices are up 13.9 percent overall. It's going to be the most expensive Christmas in history, in terms of gifts, in terms of food, even in terms of decoration.

So, when the president was asked today about when he thought prices would get back to normal, he said, hopefully, at the end of next year. Neil, Joe Biden is turning into the Grinch that stole Christmas.

CAVUTO: He says the numbers are improving. A lot of people interpreted the latest retail inflation report as proof of that. You're quite right. They're still bad. And they still have a 7 in front of them to show that we're still running at 7 percent clip.

So it doesn't seem to be going anywhere anytime soon. But that is adding, the government spending and the debt and all that, so it's made your job a lot more difficult, hasn't it?

BARRASSO: Well, it has.

And when we take a look at funding the government and the options, I mean, to me, as a conservative, the thing that bothers me and gets me most angry is, we're -- neither the ways that we're looking at doing it the right way to do it.

The right way is appropriation bills that people read and then amend and vote on and pass. But Chuck Schumer hasn't brought a single appropriation bill to the floor this year. So, we're taking a look at different options. One is kind of kicking the can down the road a bit into next year.

The other is with this what they call an omnibus bill, a larger spending bill. The advantage of the bigger bill is, it includes the military things that our -- that our Army and Navy and others need for defense. Kicking the can down the road, the value of doing that is, then you get to a Republican House next year, so hopefully we could get this reckless spending better under control.

But that's what we're looking at, the inflation that is hitting people. Their savings are at an all-time low. Credit card borrowing is up. Credit card rates are up. And for the American people, the people back home in Wyoming -- and I was at the grocery store over the weekend -- they just feel that there is no end in sight, Neil.

CAVUTO: While I have you, sir, we're just learning that the former FTX chief, Sam Bankman-Fried, is going to be in a Bahamas jail until at least February 8.

His supposed testimony before the House Financial Services Committee was disrupted by his arrest yesterday. Democrats and Republicans are angry. Are you?

BARRASSO: Well, we need to see what happened here.

I mean, I have been skeptical of this whole crypto effort from the beginning. I'm in the camp with Warren Buffett in terms of whether this makes sense or not. Is it really rat poison on steroids? I'm very conservative as an investor.

But I think we need to see what really has happened here. What is the value? Is there any? It does look like there is some fraud, mismanagement, illegality, all of those things, innocent people who have been taken in by this. We need to get to the body of this -- bottom of this. We need accountability.

And we need to get him in front of Congress when he's released from jail come February.

CAVUTO: Meanwhile, very quickly, sir, while I have you, Joe Manchin says he's not about to leave the Democrats anytime soon. But he seemed to be holding out the possibility.

What do you think of that?

BARRASSO: Joe Manchin is a Democrat, is not going to change parties.

I have tried to encourage him to become a Republican. Not going to happen. He's going to be entering this election year, the 2022 phase, as the most vulnerable, endangered Democrat in the Senate. Remember, he was the consequential vote that allowed them to pass the reckless tax-and-spending bill that got us 87,000 new IRS agents.

Look, he's not as radical as the radical bunch of Democrats, but he's decided that that's the bed that he's decided to lie in.

CAVUTO: Senator, thank you very, very much. I threw a lot at you there.

I hope you have a merry Christmas and a safe one.

BARRASSO: And to you.

CAVUTO: Thank you again.

BARRASSO: Thank you, Neil.

CAVUTO: Senator Barrasso. All right.

So, again, so much we don't know about this possible government shutdown. We will explore it tomorrow.

Here's "THE FIVE."

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HD **Special Report With Bret Baier; Pentagon Awards Contract Aimed At Provide U.S. Military With Edge In Cloud Computing Technology; Rep. Claudia Tenney (R-NY) And Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-IL) Interviewed On Their Bipartisan Efforts To Reduce Global Hunger; Some Republicans Arguing For Delaying Negotiations For Raising Debt Ceiling Until GOP Controls House Of Representatives In 2023; CEO Of Cryptocurrency Exchange **FTX** Sam Bankman-Fried Arrested In Bahamas**

BY Bret Baier, Mike Emanuel, Chad Pergam, Rich Edson, Guy Benson, Jessica Tarlov, Trey Gowdy, Britt Hume, William Lajiness, Jennifer Griffin

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LP

[18:00:00]

BRET BAIER, FOX NEWS HOST: Peppermint Patties through the hair or something.

TD

JEANINE PIRRO: Yes. The wind. The cool breeze.

BAIER: All right judge. Thank you very much. Good evening. Welcome to Washington. I'm Bret Baier. Break tonight, a fifth installment of "Twitter Files" drops, revealing some Twitter staffers did not believe then President Trump violated the platform's incitement policy in the aftermath of the January 6th Capitol riot. Nonetheless, employees began building their case to boot the president off the social media site, seemingly in part over public pressure to do so. The latest revelation is getting massive backlash from free speech advocates but still not getting a ton of coverage on other channels or outlets. Chief Washington Correspondent Mike Emanuel has the latest tonight. Good evening Mike.

MIKE EMANUEL, WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT: Internal documents released by the company's new CEO focuses on President -- President Trump's removal from Twitter, two days after the January 6th Capitol riot. Independent Journalist Bari Weiss tweeted today on the morning of January 8th, President Donald Trump with one remaining strike before being at risk of permanent suspension from Twitter, tweets twice. At 6:46 am, the president tweeted about the 75 million people who voted for him, noting they will not be disrespected or treated unfairly in any way, shape or form, and then Weiss reveals internal debate from unnamed Twitter staffers about whether that was incitement.

Weiss notes after January 6th, Twitter employees organized to demand their employer ban Trump, quote, "there's a lot of employee advocacy happening" said one Twitter employee. There was some internal push-back, quote, "maybe because I am from China" said one employee on January 7th, I deeply understand how censorship can destroy the public conversation." Weiss also notes Twitter's lack of reaction to some foreign leaders' controversial tweets. In June 2018, Iran's Ayatollah Ali Khamenei tweeted Israel is a malignant cancerous tumor in the West Asian region that has to be removed and eradicated, it is possible and it will happen. Twitter neither deleted the tweet nor banned the Ayatollah.

Weiss adds Anika Navaroli, a Twitter policy official admits to not seeing clear or coded incitement in the DJT tweet, less than 90 minutes later Vijaya Gadde, then head of Policy and Trust appears persistent, and was met with suggestions from employees that Trump's tweet may have violated Twitter's glorification of violence policy. If you interpreted the phrase, American patriots, to refer to the rioters.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JONATHAN TURLEY, GEORGE WASHINGTON LAW PROFESSOR: You have people that sit there and they dress up personal bias as a way of protecting others from harm.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

EMANUEL: Today's installment also included Twitter employees saying they were ecstatic after Mr. Trump was banned, expressing happiness over that moment in history. Bret.

BAIER: All right Mike. Thank you. We'll have additional analysis on the "Twitter Files" with Britt Hume and the panel momentarily. Democrats on Capitol Hill are scrambling in their final push for more spending before Republicans take control of the House. Lawmakers are starting at a possible -- staring, rather, as a possible government shutdown later this week or a short-term punt, a continuing resolution yet again. Congressional Correspondent Chad Pergam is following the up to the minute details from Capitol Hill. Good evening Chad.

CHAD PERGAM, CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENT: Good evening Bret. Buying time, that's what lawmakers need to avoid a government shutdown later this week. Bipartisan negotiators made progress on a long-term omnibus spending bill, but to get there the sides made an intermeasure until the broader bill is ready.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CHUCK SCHUMER , SENATOR MAJORITY LEADER: Later this week, members should be prepared to take quick action on a CR, a one week CR, so we can give appropriators more time to finish a full funding bill before the holidays.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PERGAM: Democrats prefer an omnibus, that's so they can put their mark on government funding through next year. The military prefers a longer bill. That helps with planning.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MITCH MCCONNELL , SENATOR MINORITY LEADER: We may still have a shot at assembling a full year funding bill that will give our military commanders the certainty they need to invest, plan and stay competitive.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PERGAM: GOP House members want a short-term bill, but that would force the new Republican House to fund the government in 2023. It's unclear if the GOP can pass many bills with its narrow majority next year. Bret.

BAIER: You know, Chad, this is the time of the year when Congress tries to avoid this set of mandatory spending cuts called sequestration. A lot of people may remember that from 2011. Will that all happen this year?

PERGAM: Let's first define sequestration. It's a budget control device that requires automatic spending cuts. It's a relic as you say from the 2011 debt ceiling fight, but Congress usually turns off the cuts often in big spending bills like this one. Bret.

BAIER: What gets cut this year if Congress doesn't act?

PERGAM: Well it would trigger about \$125 billion in automatic cuts. Medicare payouts to doctors would dip by about four percent. They would slash farm supports. Some conservatives hope to maintain the cuts. Now Kevin McCarthy is under pressure from fiscal hawks to lower spending. Sequestration could serve as a down payment by McCarthy to show that he's serious about reducing spending. Bret.

BAIER: OK, Chad. Thanks. We'll follow it all. Stock surged today as inflation worries wane ahead of the Labor Department's Inflation Report. The Dow gained 529 today, the S&P 500 was up 56. The NASDAQ added 139. There is new mounting pressure from both sides tonight, both sides of the aisle over President Biden's refusal to visit the southern border. It comes as Fox News cameras capture a massive migrant caravan, crossing into El Paso and border agents are bracing for a colossal surge when COVID related asylum restrictions end in nine days. Senior National Correspondent Rich Edson is live on the north lawn with the latest from the White House tonight. Good evening Rich.

RICH EDSON, NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT: Good evening Bret. Officials here at the White House say they are working to confront that expected surge, as Republicans and now some Democrats are pushing the administration to change the way it's handling the southern border.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JAKE SULLIVAN, NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISOR: The team has been working very hard to ensure that we are taking steps to be able to manage the expiration of Title 42 and to put in place a process that will be orderly and humane. And we believe that in doing so, we can protect our national security concerns.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

EDSON: Next week, Title 42 expires. It's an authority that gives border agents the power to immediately expel many of these migrants on the basis of public health. A Federal judge has ruled the government must stop using it, likely attracting more migrants into an already historic surge at the southern border.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BRANDON JUDD, NATIONAL BORDER CONTROL COUNCIL: When you look at what's happening in El Paso right now, this is pre-Title 42. After Title 42 goes away, it's going to be even more disaster.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

EDSON: Last night, more than 1,000 migrants crossed the Rio Grande River into El Paso. The largest single group our border team says it's ever seen. CBP sources tell us they are overrun. El Paso sector, more than 2,400 illegal crossings in the last 24 hours, we're hearing they currently have well over 5,000 migrants in custody in the El Paso sector right now. And as a result, the city of El Paso says Border Patrol has started mass street releases of migrants. The Biden Administration is requesting Congress approve \$3 billion in additional funding for the border. Republicans say the White House needs to change it's policies.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SENATOR RON JOHNSON, REPUBLICAN WISCONSIN: They're delusional. They're in a state of denial. This is a humanitarian crisis. It is a disaster. It's not good for anybody. It's got to be fixed.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

EDSON: The White House says if Republicans were serious about the border, they'd approve resources to build a safe, orderly and humane immigration system. One Democrat says they're could be a bipartisan agreement on more border security funding.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

RO KHANNA , HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE: The president does want to do something. We need more asylum processing. We need refugee resettlement in the countries that they're coming from so they don't end up at our border. I think they're bipartisan solutions here.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

EDSON: Congressman Khanna says he thinks and expects will go to the southern border. The president is expected to travel to Mexico next month as part of the North American Leaders Summit. Bret.

BAIER: Rich Edson, live on the north lawn. Rich thanks.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

IYLA SHAPIRO, MANHATTAN INSTITUTE: It seems like they're making things up on the fly arbitrarily. Now, they are free as a private company to have no policy whatsoever to, you know, say we're going to do whatever we want, whenever we want, but they didn't say that. They said we have these clear rules. Here's our policies to, you know, you have a one strike, two strike, three strike, whatever it might be. But if they go against that then they're misrepresenting themselves.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: Well there -- the "Twitter Files" story -- story continues to unfold. Elon Musk tweeting today under pressure from hundreds of activists and employees, Twitter deplatforms Trump, a sitting U.S. president even though they themselves acknowledge they didn't violate the rules. Let's with that, bring in our panel early tonight. Guy Benson, Political Editor at Townhall.com, host of the Guy Benson show on Fox News Radio, the Five co-host Jessica Tarlov, Trey Gowdy , former Congressman from South Carolina and Fox News Political Analyst Britt Hume. Britt, how do you see this story. We're getting the evolution of it, day by day. This is the fifth installment. Where do you put this?

BRITT HUME, FOX NEWS POLITICAL ANALYST: This is a group of people at Twitter who may not have any concept of the idea of Free Speech and what it's about.

The framers of the Constitution believed in it. That's why we have the First Amendment and they're view was that we should have a -- a country with open debate, open discussion where even as Thomas Jefferson put it, even where we tolerate error or so long, he said, as reason is free to combat it. That's the idea that -- that if people have an open debate. If they can make their claims, good or bad and others are free to respond to them, that people will be able to figure it out. They trusted the people. This -- this -- this Twitter apparatchiks don't seem to trust anybody outside their own hallways and the result is what you saw with Trump. It was absurd. He was accused and -- of violating Twitter rules but there were no rules that could find that he violated. Meanwhile of course, Ayatollah's other dictators around the world have been free to post some of the most threatening stuff you've ever heard on Twitter without any consequences. So the contrast is -- is vividly clear. Twitter was supposed to be an open forum with rules but when they decided they wanted to, they ignored their own rules.

BAIER: Jessica, what -- what do you see here? I mean, you've got people cheering the fact that the former president is knocked off, meanwhile to Britt's point others are still on. And -- I -- where do you think that the coverage of this goes?

JESSICA TARLOV, FOX CO-HOST OF THE FIVE: Well, first to what's been revealed in the latest installment that came from Bari Weiss, Matt Taibbi had another string of releases and Michael Shellenberger as well over the last couple of days, just the weekend. There was definitely a lot of information in there. I thought that unfortunately though it was still rather thin, when you consider what they think they're revealing versus what's already been talked about, in terms of the media discussing it. Things that Twitter has actually briefed people about going back to 2018 in terms of their policies, and in Bari Weiss' discussion or report on the decision to ban President Trump, it actually seemed the trust and safety folks were the ones ultimately responsible for this.

We're being quite thoughtful about it and there were people who worked at Twitter who are not necessarily on that team, that were being quite callous. Saying, yes, (inaudible) Trump, we're part of history, et cetera and I thought that was a very ugly look for the company and something they would certainly be embarrassed that it was released. Obviously there were concerns about the Free Speech part of this. We had the president of France. We had Angela Merkle while she was still chancellor say that this was chilling to see this happening in the United States, but this is a private company and there were a lot of people, obviously, within Twitter but outside of Twitter who did feel that the president was inciting violence and we did end up seeing violence on January 6th.

So I see a pretty clear line there and Matt Taibbi had one of his releases that said that Donald Trump , someone they consider was what he considered a pretty anodyne tweet. It wasn't anodyne at all, it was actually the president saying that the mail-in ballots were -- should invalidated. That there were discrepancies in them and that's how we've ended up with a system that are so many people who support the president who don't think that Biden was elected legitimately.

BAIER: Yes, I guess the argument was, was it calling for violence at that moment which was their stipulation. Trey Gowdy , how do you see it and is this a big deal in your mind? Obviously there are some news organizations who don't think it is.

TREY GOWDY , FORMER CONGRESSMAN OF SOUTH CAROLINA: Yes, but I -- I hate to be an outlier but -- but a group of Democrats showing preference for a Democrat and suppressing Republicans, it's just not breaking news to me. I mean, the New York Times and Politico have been doing it for decades. So I mean, shame on us for becoming so reliant on social media. If there is entanglement between government, our law enforcement or intelligence community and Twitter , that's a different story, but Bret the New York Times has not endorsed a Republican since Dwight Eisenhower . I -- I mean, who -- who was surprised that a group of Democrats is going to suppress positive stories about Republicans and amplify negative stories about Republicans. It's just not surprising to me.

BAIER: Right. But Guy, I guess from all the questions they were taking on Capitol Hill, were conservatives being suppressed, was this happening and the answers were no under oath in the testimony. I guess that's where people go back to.

GUY BENSON, POLITICAL EDITOR AT TOWNHALL.COM: Yes, I think we're misleading the public and as I think about these releases as they come to the floor, one after another. I keep going back to the famous quote from the former NFL Football Coach Dennis Green after a loss, he said the opponents that they had lost too, they are who we thought they were. And I think for a lot of conservatives that's precisely what these revelations feel like to all of us, like yes, it was a small cabal of leftists making these decisions. Sometimes in a capricious way on partisan whims and they weren't telling the truth about it. I think that is a really crucial component of this Bret, and as we look at the reaction of the lack of reaction from so many in the press.

I think it's telling, because, you know, it's "Calvin ball" where the rules are made up as we go along. The goalposts are flying all over the place. It's impossible to pin down exactly what is allowed and what isn't but they were swearing publicly, oh no, we have these rules. We take them seriously. We adjudicate them fully. That appears not to have been the case inside Twitter and a lot of the media folks, who were saying oh this is a -- a conspiracy theory. This isn't true. There are rules. They just seamlessly glided to the new talking point which is, oh we knew all of this and it was sort of OK anyway and technically it's not shadow banning. It's yet more "calvin ball" on the fly rules and I think that's what really bothers so many people.

BAIER: Britt, turn topics now. After the election we are getting more bipartisan reaction to the situation on the border. Take a listen.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SENATOR KRISTIN SINEMA: The Federal government has failed here. In places like Arizona, front lines of this crisis have been paying the price every single day since then.

CONGRESSMAN PATT FALLON: This is global crisis. It's an American catastrophe and something needs to be done.

CONGRESSMAN HENRY CUELLAR: Humanitarian relief is important and I support that 100 percent, but it doesn't go contrite to having a border security. A country that doesn't provide security is doing a disservice to it's citizens.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: To be fair, some of those folks were saying that before the election. A bold statement from Senator Sinema who's now an Independent after the weekend saying she's going to caucus with the Democrats Britt, but wants to be Independent. And the total southwest land border encounters now 2.3 million, more than that in FY '22, exponentially more than they were over the past couple of years. Thoughts?

HUME: And did -- did you hear Jake Sullivan's comment, it was in your sound bite? It was utter eyewash. It was a string of words that did not describe a single action of any consequence to stem this flow of illegal immigration which has been going on for a long time. Without any serious effort, any really major effort to stop it, and the only conclusion one can draw is that this administration decided that it wants this. That it wants these people here and it doesn't matter to them very much how they get in, and I think that's where we are and that's where we've been and it's -- it's a political calculus all the way. And we can hope that political pressure may induce the administration to do something serious, because it has not done anything serious yet.

BAIER: And Trey quickly, I mean coming up on this Title 42 moment, nine days from now. One can only think that over those nine days there's going to be more of an influx.

GOWDY: Yes, it's gone from a crisis to a catastrophe but you know what Bret? Six of the eight border Senators caucus with the Democrats and well over half, probably close to 80 percent of the House members that represent border districts are Democrats. So to -- to Britt's point, it is catastrophe by design. If they wanted to fix it, it would have been fixed.

BAIER: OK panel. We'll see you at the bottom end of the show. Thank you. Up next a revolutionary scientific breakthrough that could change the dynamics of America's energy infrastructure, you want to hear about this story. Plus the Pentagon, and big tech team up to modernize American warfare on the digital battlefield.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[18:20:09]

BAIER: The U.S. Air Force is touting it's first successful launch of an operational hypersonic missile prototype. The Air Force says following the projectile separation from the aircraft, it reached hypersonic speeds greater than five times the speed of sound. Completing it's flight path and detonating in the terminal area, the test is a key milestone on the path to declaring the first U.S. hypersonic weapon. NASA 's Orion capsule and three test dummies are back to the -- back on the way to Earth tonight, after making a blisteringly fast return from the moon Sunday, back on Earth now. NASA hailed the descent and splashed down as close to perfect, the space agency needed a successful splashdown to stay on track for the next Orion -- Orion flight around the moon targeted for 2024 with four astronauts who will revealed early next year.

Science block here, for the first time ever, U.S. scientists reportedly produced a nuclear fusion reaction, resulting in a net energy gain replicating the fusion that powers the sun. It's a massive step in the quest for an infinite source of clean energy. National Correspondent William Lajiness has details tonight.

WILLIAM LAJANESS, NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT: A breakthrough at the Lawrence Livermore Lab outside San Francisco.

MATTHEW THOMPSON, ZAP ENERGY: It's a major scientific achievement for the Department of Energy and the nation.

LAJANESS: Scientists for the first time reportedly producing energy from nuclear fusion.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CONGRESSMAN DON BEYER: When we make this real, you know, build the plants, this will be the biggest thing that happens in any of our lives.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

LAJANESS: Unlike current nuclear plants which split atoms, fusion combines them, a low risk and unlimited carbon free power that does not generate radioactive waste.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

THOMPSON: Fusion is pretty much literally the power of the sun brought to Earth in a controlled manner.

BEYER: The raw material is water. There's no radioactive waste to have to bury in the mountains someplace.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

LAJANESS: This video shows how the science works. A tiny hydrogen capsule, about the size of a pencil eraser is hit with high powered lasers. Atoms converge, generating the heat to produce steam to run turbines to generate power.

UNKNOWN: Producing abundant fusion on Earth is considered one of the grand engineering challenges of the 21st century.

LAJANESS: Until the now, the energy required to operate the reactor exceeded what it produced. While the lab itself says more study is needed, for the first time in some 80 years nuclear fusion produced more energy that it consumed.

DAVID KIRTLEY , HELION ENERGY : We're talking about 10 years or less to get commercial electricity on the grid and Helion and others in fusion right now in the private space are pushing very, very hard to get electricity to the consumer as fast as we can.

LAJANESS: Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm is scheduled to announce the breakthrough tomorrow and what it could mean for a clean energy grid in the future. Bret.

BAIER: That is well. William, thank you. Up next, this week's common ground segment. One Republican, one Democrat on combating our nation's biggest foreign adversaries. First "Beyond our Border's" tonight. Iran publicly executes a prisoner who allegedly fatally stabbed two members of a paramilitary force during the nationwide protest challenging the country's theocracy. It is the second public hanging in five days, seen as a gruesome warning to try to deter others. According to human rights activists in Iran, at least 488 people have been killed since the demonstrations began in mid-September.

The family of an American who went missing in France last month launches a website in hopes of receiving information about their son's potential whereabouts. Ken Deland was last heard from on November 27th while studying abroad was last seen on December 3rd. French authorities are investigating. And a pair of dogs gifted by North Korean leader Kim Jung- Un to then South Korean President Moon Jae -In are unveiled at a local zoo. The pair of white Pungsan hunting dogs were moved to the park after a dispute over who should finance the caring of the animals. Just some of the other stories "Beyond Our Border's" tonight. We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BAIER: China says it plans to stop tracking some travel today, potentially reducing the likelihood people will be forced into quarantine for visiting COVID-19 hotspots as part of an uncertain exit from the strict pandemic policies that helped fuel widespread protests there in China. Last month in Beijing and several

other cities protests over the restrictions grew into calls for leader Xi Jinping and the communist party to step down, a level of public dissent not seen in decades.

The future of modern warfare is entering a new chapter. The Pentagon announcing a multibillion-dollar contract that will help the U.S. outmaneuver China and Russia in cloud technology. Speed, accuracy, and secrecy are all a part of the Pentagon's new approach manned and unmanned warfare.

National security correspondent Jennifer Griffin reports from the Pentagon.

(BEGIN VIDEO TAPE)

JOHN SHERMAN, DEFENSE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER: It is an ability to make sense and be able to decide quicker than you adversary is able to decide.

JENNIFER GRIFFIN, FOX NEWS NATIONAL SECURITY CORRESPONDENT: For three years the Pentagon has struggled to award one of the largest contracts in DOD history. In 2019, it chose Microsoft for a \$10 billion cloud computing contract. Amazon, who lost its bid, sued the Pentagon, suggesting that President Trump may have intervened to punish rival Jeff Bezos, owner of the "The Washington Post." The DOD inspector general found no evidence of interference, but the Pentagon scrapped the deal and finally has announced a new cloud contract worth \$9 billion awarded to Google, Oracle, Microsoft, and Amazon. The Pentagon's first ever cloud computing network will be called the Joint Warfighting Cloud Capability. It will provide top secret data to military personnel around the globe.

SHERMAN: Be able to understand the information around our commanders and others who have to be able to act very quickly in a very 21st century environment.

GRIFFIN: With the U.S. military relying more on unmanned aircraft, space communications, and satellites, cloud technology will get the intelligence from those platforms to troops on the ground faster. The next war will be won not on the ground but in the cloud, according to experts.

CRAIG SINGLETON, FOUNDATION FOR DEFENSE OF DEMOCRACIES: Chinese strategists really believe that these technologies have the potential future of warfare. The challenge for China is that its reach exceeds its grasp. And so right now the U.S. does maintain an edge, but that edge is shrinking.

(END VIDEO TAPE)

GRIFFIN (on camera): Russia is finding out in Ukraine why secure, fast communications, something they lack, is so important. Their smart weapons are being used as dumb bombs. And Russian ground units have had to rely on off-the-shelf radios whose communications can be easily intercepted. Bret?

BAIER: Jennifer Griffin at the Pentagon. Jennifer, thank you.

The U.S. Supreme Court is adding second case to its docket over President Biden's student debt relief program. In both the cases lower courts blocked the plan, meaning the Supreme Court will have the final say on whether it goes into effect. The cases will be argued in late February or early March. The program, which allows eligible borrowers to cancel up to \$20,000 in debt, has been on hold since October.

Indiana Republican Senator Mike Braun is officially running for governor of the Hoosier state in what is expected to be a crowded Republican field vying to succeed Governor Eric Holcomb. That election will take place in 2024. Braun's announcement is likely to open up a competitive Republican primary for his Senate seat.

Up next, our weekly Common Ground segment, and, later, the panel comes back with the Capitol Hill spending standoff and what comes next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

BAIER: Time now for our Common Ground segment. Joining us tonight are New York Republican Congresswoman Claudia Tenney and Illinois Democratic Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi. Thank you both for being here. We talk about all the things that both parties are different on. There are some big issues, obviously, that you all fight about. But one of the reasons we do this is to figure out where you might be able to find common ground. For the two of you who have worked together on Capitol Hill, where is that? First to you, Congresswoman.

REP. CLAUDIA TENNEY, (R-NY): Representative Krishnamoorthi and I came in as freshmen in 2016, and we signed a commitment to civility. And we were very committed to that. We made sure we did legislation together. We worked together as freshmen. And we want to continue doing that. And so I think that interesting that Raja and I actually have a lot in common that would be surprising maybe to your audience,

and one of those things is dealing with global hunger. It's very important to us. Also dealing with the protests in China, the protests in Iran, and freedom around the world and supporting democratic principles.

REP. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY, (D-IL): Hey, thank you so much. And I echo Claudia's sentiments. You know, one other thing that she didn't mention that we share in common is that I actually immigrated with my family to upstate New York from India when we first came to the United States, when I was three months old. So I was born in New Delhi, India, and came from one of the hottest places in the world to one of the not so hottest places in the world in Buffalo, New York. But in any case, we worked together on a number of issues, as Claudia mentioned, and I'm so happy to be on with you, Bret, and thank you for doing this.

BAIER: So we talk about China and the importance of that issue for the U.S. And Congresswoman, you mentioned the protests that are going on there. What technically do you think you could do in Congress to make your feelings known about that, that potentially affect the administration's?

TENNEY: In the name of recognizing is some of these really courageous acts by these protesters who are standing up under these COVID lockdowns, but I think it's more than that. It's standing up to the Chinese Communist Party. We are kind of like the rust belt of New York, and we have done a lot to try to bring those jobs back, bring our supply chain back and to really encourage the administration and the other side to see that we need to talk about prosperity and bringing back an economically friendly environment.

BAIER: Congressman, do you think that Congress fully appreciates the threat from China?

KRISHNAMOORTHY: I think that we need to act more forcefully to protect ourselves. Under Chairman Xi Jinping, they've really consolidated their power. They're throwing their elbows militarily in their neighborhood, so to speak, whether it's the South China Sea or Taiwan or even India. They are also practicing unfair economic policies. They're dumping goods to try to undermine our industries. They're also conducting espionage on an industrial scale, and not just with U.S. national security interests but also private corporate and business interests.

And when you couple all that with their crackdown on human rights within the People's Republic of China, it's a dangerous brew, and it poses a long-term threat to the United States and the world.

BAIER: You mentioned food security, and there was a bill that you both signed on to, Congresswoman?

TENNEY: Yes, definitely. And I think a lot of people don't know what we do together as members in a bipartisan way because so much is focused on one side or the other. And global food security, global hunger is a real problem, especially in a lot of these countries where you have seen a downturn in their economies. You've seen more dictatorships arising and less interest in really helping the neediest in those communities. And I think that's where you will see more bipartisan step up, like the bill that Mr. Krishnamoorthi and I, or Raja, I should call you Raja, the two of us co-sponsored.

BAIER: Congresswoman, do you think it is going to be Speaker McCarthy come January 3rd?

TENNEY: I think he deserves a chance to lead. And I think some of those that are objecting ought to give him that chance. And if they don't like how he leads, then we have a chance to revisit this issue. But I think right now, with such a slim majority, we really need to really shore up our conference.

BAIER: Congresswoman, you mentioned China and food security. Is there something else that you would pick up the phone and call Raja, let's say, use his first name, and say let's get a deal on something else?

TENNEY: I would love to call Raj up to say, where can we come to some middle ground on energy and making sure we are still productive, we are prosperous, and we have a reliable energy source that will lead us into the future, and not something that takes us down a path of really, I think a dangerous path of lack of security, lack of prosperity in our communities.

BAIER: Congressman, last word. Does your leadership encourage doing business with the other side like this, like we're talking about?

KRISHNAMOORTHY: Absolutely. And if I had the chance, I would pick up the phone and call Claudia and say, hey, let's work on skills based and vocations education modernization. This is a passion of mine. I think that we spend way too much time and focus on four year colleges and universities as being the primary vehicle for postsecondary education when roughly two-thirds of Americans don't have a four year college degree. Elections are kind of drawing us apart. A lot of the rhetoric tends to pull us apart. But at the end of the day we are all Americans. We have to pull together to face our common challenges, whether it's food insecurity, which Congresswoman Tenney eloquently spoke about, or whether it's the Chinese Communist Party threat, or any other number of other challenges. What we share in common far surpasses what divides us.

BAIER: We thank you both for being on Common Ground. Pass the word up there. Hopefully there will be more of you to come on. Thanks for the time.

KRISHNAMOORTHY: Thank you, Bret.

TENNEY: Thank you.

BAIER: Other news today, the Lockerbie bombing suspect made an initial appearance today in federal court where he was formally charged with an act of international terrorism in connection with the December, 1988, terrorist attack. The former Libyan intelligence official is accused of making the bomb that brought down the Pan Am flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, killing 270, including 190 Americans. The court scheduled a pre-trial detention hearing on December 27th.

Up next, the panel on the spending and leadership battles on Capitol Hill, and then breaking a world record in honor of fallen heroes.

First, here is what some of our FOX affiliates around the country are covering tonight. FOX 35, our affiliate in Orlando as officials at the Orlando International Airport say bad weather is preventing the delivery of reserve jet fuel, prompting fears that visitors to the nation's seventh busiest airport could face significant delays there. Heavy fog is being blamed for the delays so far, but officials are now saying the weather has cleared and ships are on the move again. The planes are coming in.

And this is a live look at Los Angeles from FOX 11. One of the big stories there tonight, the unveiling of the nominees for the 80th Golden Globe Awards. The comedy "The Banshees of Inisherin" leads the list of nominations with eight. The awards return on January 10th. Comedian Jerrod Carmichael will host.

That is tonight's live look outside the beltway from SPECIAL REPORT. We'll be right back.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. JEFF VAN DREW , (R-NJ): This administration and this majority does, they either take no action at all and just hope that things cure themselves, or they take the wrong actions.

SEN. BERNIE SANDERS, (I-VT): Short-term extensions are just a temporary solution to the ongoing crisis we face. Clearly, what I worry about is Republican efforts to hold hostage next year, if we don't get an omnibus bill passed, to hold hostage the government.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

BAIER: Well, we have been here before. These fiscal cliffs at the end of the year, funding the government, funding the Pentagon. We are back again, and we're back with our panel, Guy Benson, Jessica Tarlov, and Trey Gowdy . Trey, you have been through a few of these. It seems like there are a number of Republicans in the House that say, hey, we just won. We just won the House. Why not wait until January 3rd when we have the majority and the gavel, and we'll be in a better position with more leverage. There are other Republicans who say we just negotiated all this stuff. Let's pass it and move to the next session. What do you think?

TREY GOWDY , FORMER SOUTH CAROLINA REPRESENTATIVE: Yes, I think there are three parties in Washington -- Republicans, Democrats, and appropriators. The appropriators are an entity unto themselves. And I will say this. There are some principled Republicans that do believe hey, we just won. Gives a crack at this. But I'm not sure they really believe it. Because what's going to happen, Bret, if you have got a five-person majority, Kevin McCarthy, talk about a nightmare trying to get the House to pass something that would even be brought up on the Senate side. So you are headed towards some kind of shutdown which Republicans never win, shutdown wars. So, they say they want to do it as soon as possible, but they don't mean it.

BAIER: Yes, Jessica, what do you think?

JESSICA TARLOV, CO-HOST, "THE FIVE": I think that I agree with Trey Gowdy , which I was not expecting to say right off the bat there. And obviously, he has experience doing this himself. The appropriators obviously do function a bit differently than the rank and file in all of this. But I do think that Democrats have a particularly strong case because so much of what Republicans say is extraneous domestic spending relates to causes that is so important to the Republican Party, or at least in name. Things like funding police departments, making sure that veterans are getting better medical attention, those are issues that typically the GOP tries to own, and Democrats are making that a core piece of their

argument for why we need to get this done besides the fact that we can't have another shutdown like we did four years ago, only 35 days I think, right?

BAIER: That's right. We have got some breaking news. I want to bring it in here.

We can confirm that Sam Bankman-Fried, the embattled CEO of crypto currency giant FTX has been arrested in the Bahamas. That's according to the Bahamas attorney general's office, saying that the arrest followed the receipt of formal notification from the United States that it had filed criminal charges against SBF and is likely to request his extradition. So we are now getting word this minute that the FTX founder Sam Bankman-Fried has been arrested. This is as he was scheduled, Guy, to testify up on Capitol Hill, but we heard that that may have been logistically impossible. But now we know maybe why. He has been arrested in the Bahamas.

GUY BENSON, POLITICAL EDITOR, TOWNHALL.COM: Good. I think a lot of Americans have been watching this media tour this guy has been on. Billions of dollars disappear. And he is giving interviews from the Bahamas like he is having a great time and saying, well, maybe I will show up for congressional hearings. Maybe not. I'm worried about the paparazzi. I'm super heavily scheduled. And it just seems like a farce. It seems like this person at the very least needs to answer very serious questions. And I am not an expert on our extradition policy and our treaty with the Bahamas. Maybe Trey Gowdy knows as a former prosecutor. But at the very least, bring this guy in, ask him tough questions. It seems like things might get a lot uglier for him, and I think a lot of Americans would say it's about time.

BAIER: Trey?

GOWDY: Well, if you are going to get arrested, the Bahamas would be a good place, I would think, for that to happen. He is not answering anybody's questions. I kind of could tell when his father -- I think his father is a Stanford law professor. When he resigned, that was some indication, hey, I think one of my kids is about to be in trouble. He ain't talking to anybody any time soon.

BAIER: What about this? All of this money, Jessica, disappears, from \$20 billion to whatever. He said he had \$100,000 left. But people were invested in it. And then it just seems like Congress is shrugging. Well, we'll see if he voluntarily comes in. There wasn't a subpoena issued by Maxine Waters. There wasn't -- I don't know. Obviously, they're moving forward with something now on the legal side. What do you make of it?

TARLOV: Well, it's different than a typical shrug because they said that they cared, right, and they have the power to do it. And this was something that was completely bipartisan. You could have a million Common Ground panels how people feel about Sam Bankman-Fried and the fact that so many people from the richest in the country, the Tom Bradys and the LeBron James of the world down to people who put all of their money, whatever they had, into FTX because they thought this was going to save them and their family, have lost from all of this.

So I hope that it's taken very seriously. If Kevin McCarthy is to be leader come January, then I'm sure whoever is in charge of the committees that would handle this is going to take it up right away. And I think that Maxine Waters should make it a priority as well, at least go some way to push back on the idea that we don't care because Sam Bankman-Fried gave us a lot of money going into the midterms.

BAIER: Yes, exactly, the last point there, Guy, quickly, is that there was a lot of money spread around a lot of different places in Washington and every place else.

BENSON: Democratic megadonor, that's one of his titles, and he says he gave some money through dark money to the Republicans, too. Follow that money. We have not heard the last of this. And it is just an enraging story, I think, to Americans across the spectrum.

BAIER: I do, too. And I think there are a lot of questions yet to be answered. We'll continue to follow it. And, panel, thanks for rolling with the punches. A little audible there, mid-show. I appreciate it.

Tomorrow on SPECIAL REPORT, we will follow the arrest of former FTX CEO Sam Bankman-Fried. Had to move the kicker this time. We will bring it back tomorrow night. But thanks for inviting us into your home tonight. That's it for this SPECIAL REPORT, fair, balanced, and still unafraid.

We wanted to make sure that we gave Jesse Watters enough time to digest this news, so we're going to give him 10 seconds early. Jesse?

END

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HD **Sam Bankman-Fried to Testify Before Congress; Banksy Art in Ukraine; Twitter Files; Kyrsten Sinema Becomes Independent; Migrant Surge; Interview With Gov. Chris Sununu (R-NH)**

BY Madison Alworth, Kacie McDonnell Hosmer, Charlie Gasparino, Jeff Paul, Kelly O'Grady, Bill Melugin, Neil Cavuto

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SC CAVU

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LP

NEIL CAVUTO, FOX NEWS ANCHOR: To the Sinema shakeup, maybe not so much for the U.S. Senate in 2023, but for the presidential race in 2024. Could the Arizona senator's move to the middle be signaling a hunger for others maybe to do the same?

We will ask former independent Senator Joe Lieberman and Republican New Hampshire Governor Chris Sununu, who could be on that '24 list, what they both make of it.

TD

Welcome, everybody. I'm Neil Cavuto. Glad to have you on a crazy week for politics. But did it really change where we stand? It is still going to be, after all, a 51-49 Democratic Senate? Or is it?

Susan Crabtree here right now to get her take on all of this and how significant this is. She's RealClearPolitics thing. We're very happy to have her.

Susan, I spoke with Joe Lieberman on this very issue a little while ago on FOX Business, which, if you don't have, Susan, you should demand. Fortunately, he demanded it, got it, talked to me on it, and said this follows a pattern.

I want you to react to Senator Lieberman.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CAVUTO: We have now, with Sinema, I think three independent senators.

And I'm just wondering. It won't change committee assignments. It won't change whose seniority is recognized or not. I get that. But would it give the Democratic majority pause? In other words, would there be a reluctance for Chuck Schumer to go too far left?

FMR. SEN. JOE LIEBERMAN (I-CT): I think it's healthy. I think it begins to break the lock hold that the two parties have on Congress and on American politics, which really doesn't represent, as I say, the largest group of voters in America, who are, by their own self-description, independents.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

CAVUTO: What do you make of that, Susan, that this follows a trend and a trend that's in the American society? Do you buy that?

SUSAN CRABTREE, REALCLEARPOLITICS: Yes, I actually do.

I do think that the -- there was a Gallup poll out in January saying there's 42 percent of the electorate actually identifies as independent, not with either party. And that's far more than even with the Democrats, about 29 percent, and Republicans at 27 percent.

So there is a growing trend. But this two-party system and the primary system, the presidential, is very entrenched in terms of the money game and just the way we operate. It may actually affect the general,

more likely, as candidates move to the middle to try to appeal to these growing independent -- number of independent voters.

But we actually won't know right now if it's successful. Sinema is a wild card. That's why I love this story. She always keeps Washington guessing. But she was really in this for self-preservation, because she was getting an attack from the -- she is going to get a primary challenge from Ruben Gallego from the left, and he was already talking to her money, her top donors.

So we knew that. She is likely going to have to -- if she decides to run. She hasn't declared yet for 2024. She's going to have to be in the middle of maybe a Trump-like candidate in Arizona you have seen as very popular on the right...

CAVUTO: Right. Right.

CRABTREE: ... and Ruben Gallego on the left, and she may end up being the more reasonable candidate, but we will watch and see how that plays out. But it won't be before the 2024 election.

CAVUTO: But, in the meantime, we will now have three independent senators, right? They caucus with the Democrats. She will caucus with the Democrats?

If you're Chuck Schumer, are you worried that she ultimately leaves the Democrats? Or is this suiting you just fine? You have still got the majority. You still are acting in a 51-49 Senate world dominated by Democrats, albeit with this idea that three caucus with the Democrats. But you get what I mean.

Has anything really change?

CRABTREE: No. Honestly, in terms of Senate dynamics and the way they operate, I don't think this has changed anything at all.

What's changed is that she has a better chance of winning her election. We will see how that plays out. But she wasn't going to -- likely going to win with this challenge from Ruben Gallego, because the Democratic Party is very upset with Sinema, as you well know.

And the White House has called her a Rubik's Cube, never knowing where she's going to end up, and how they always have to placate her on different matters that are sometimes unexpected. She comes up and she leads them along and then surprises them in the end. That dynamics still exists.

And I think this actually gives Joe Manchin a little bit more power in a 51-49 Senate dynamic.

CAVUTO: Right.

CRABTREE: Because he actually played a bigger role last year, as you know, earlier this year, in the fall, coming up with that plan that Sinema didn't know about with the Inflation Reduction Act.

CAVUTO: Yes, and, to your point, we don't -- we haven't heard from him. We don't know what he will be doing down the road.

Susan, thank you very much. Have a wonderful weekend.

CRABTREE: You too, Neil. Thanks for having me.

CAVUTO: All right, well, if this is a move to the middle, probably, the governor of New Hampshire saying, welcome to where I am and where I have been.

Chris Sununu is the Republican New Hampshire governor, easily won reelection.

Senator -- or, Governor -- I apologize -- very good to have you back with us.

What did you make of this move?

GOV. CHRIS SUNUNU (R-NH): Thanks, Neil.

I think it's a lot of -- it's a title.

I don't think she's changing her philosophy or her principles or anything like that. As was said, she's always a bit of a wild card. And she always keeps Schumer from going too far left. So I don't think anything fundamentally has changed.

Is it -- does it mean we're going to get immigration reform, like America wants? No. Does it mean we're going to get health care reform, like America wants? No, does it mean we're going to start balancing budgets? Unfortunately, no, not out of Washington.

So I don't think anything fundamentally changes. I think it's more to -- as Susan was saying, more to a defense of her position and what might be coming in '24 back in Arizona.

CAVUTO: You know, Governor, to your point, a lot of Republicans were very hopeful on this, until they got into the details, realized she still will caucus with the Democrats. It will still technically be...

SUNUNU: Yes.

CAVUTO: Not even technically -- is a Democrat-dominated Senate.

So, that doesn't change. Message for Republicans then would be what?

SUNUNU: Look, do your job.

Let's go back to the message today is the same as the message six months ago, do your job, get results, deliver on what you have promised America, work in a bipartisan way and start passing bills and start raising the bar of expectations for the U.S. Congress. You're supposed to be one of the highest, most regarded political bodies, public service bodies in the country, and you're not living up to expectations.

So it's not just about Republicans. The body as a whole has to start getting stuff done, or, as you have heard me say before, fire them all. If they can't get anything done, just -- let's just replace them.

CAVUTO: All right, right now, as you know, Governor, we have only one announced prominent Republican going for the White House in 2024. Of course, that's Donald Trump.

Your name has been mentioned, along with at least a half-a-dozen others, at a minimum, who might be entertaining that job.

First to you, sir, and whether you're interested in it.

SUNUNU: I'm sorry. I can't hear, Neil. You will have to go to the next question. I couldn't hear a thing there.

(LAUGHTER)

CAVUTO: I had a feeling.

SUNUNU: No, look, a lot of people are...

(CROSSTALK)

CAVUTO: But would Donald Trump's presence make a difference to you, that he's running...

SUNUNU: No.

CAVUTO: ... and takes it as an act of disloyalty for other Republicans to consider doing the same?

SUNUNU: No, I don't I think his -- his presence in the race isn't going to make a difference to anybody.

And it's not -- I don't mean any disrespect to Donald Trump, but we're just all moving on, right? He was the president. I think he did a -- passed some good things and did some good stuff. We supported him in '16. We supported him in '20. It didn't work out. As a party, we're going to move on.

Look, it's in the American spirit. Like, let's think about what we are as Americans, our DNA. We always want the next thing. We want the next idea, the next piece of technology, the 2.0 of whatever we're dealing with today.

It is not in our DNA to say that the best opportunity for future leadership is yesterday's leadership. I mean, just think of it from that perspective. It does -- that's not in us. So -- and we have a lot of other great candidates that could step up, whether they're governors or public servants or mayors or whatever it is.

And I think that's exactly what is going to happen. No one's going to be scared out of this race with the president stepping in. I mean, his whole -- his whole announcement kind of fell flat. I think we all -- can all agree on that. There's been some missteps already.

So he can have -- I think he could still win the nomination. But the most important thing and what we learned very specifically just a few weeks ago in the November election is, we need winners in November.

We need people that can close the deal in November. Primaries do not matter unless you bring winners to the table.

And so I think that, as a Republican Party in this country, are what we're going to be looking at the most.

CAVUTO: Let me ask you, though, do you blame Donald Trump for Republicans being in this predicament in the Senate?

SUNUNU: No. No.

Look, he's a piece. He's a piece of the bad messaging. He's a piece. But if you start throwing all the blame on Trump, and you just think it's a Trump, no Trump thing, that's not it at all. We have -- we had bad candidates with bad messaging that didn't listen to voters and forgot the most important thing. You have to get more votes than the other person.

And you do that not just by catering to extremists in your base, but you have to listen to independents, even listen to those conservative Democrats. What are those issues for your voters? And then you got to kind of connect with them as an individual, as a candidate. It's not just about national party politics.

People want to know that you're going to bring it home to their districts. And we just had candidates that didn't understand some of the basic blocking and tackling, if you will, of how to win races and how to close the deal in November.

CAVUTO: You know, you are obviously from New Hampshire.

And New Hampshire has been recognized forever now. It's the first-in-the- nation primary, Democrats shuffling that around, putting the focus on South Carolina. Would Republicans ever entertain that?

SUNUNU: Oh, I don't think so.

Look, we're an amazing first filter. The fact that the Democrats are moving it to South Carolina is a joke, right? So, if this is -- this is being done on the whims of the personal opinion of, frankly, the candidate Joe Biden, who did very well in South Carolina. I mean, that South Carolina process is basically dictated on party bosses with very low voter turnout, as opposed to New Hampshire, where you -- it doesn't matter how much money you have or name I.D.

You engage one-on-one on that retail politics side. That's exactly what America wants to see. That's exactly the first filter. So, the fact that the Democrat Party is screwing with the election process, nothing new, Neil. We have seen it before. Go ask Bernie Sanders how it worked out with the whole superdelegate nonsense a few years ago.

So this is just how they do things. They manipulate it, so a select liberal elite, if you will, have all the say in who the nominee is going to be. So, look, we're going to still have our first-in-the-nation primary first, on the Democrat side too. And I think you're going to see Democrats come here, because there's no way the liberal elite of Washington is going to let Joe Biden just run his race.

They're going to challenge him, and they're going to challenge him right here in New Hampshire. There's no doubt about it.

CAVUTO: Because the benefit of that would be, you're the governor of New Hampshire, you kick off and run for president in New Hampshire, that would be a great start for you.

SUNUNU: Well, look, nothing I'm thinking about right now.

CAVUTO: All right.

SUNUNU: But understand you have a couple of people in South Carolina. Nikki Haley and Tim Scott could run.

CAVUTO: Sure.

SUNUNU: And Trump and DeSantis and maybe Rick Scott and Rubio, they could all run in Florida.

So these early states could have a variety of early candidates, and that's OK. They still have to earn it. I still believe that. You still got to earn it one way or the other.

CAVUTO: Thank you, Governor. It's always a pleasure having you on.

SUNUNU: You bet, bud.

CAVUTO: All right, Governor Sununu of the beautiful state of New Hampshire, which, for Republicans, will still be the leadoff state for primaries.

In the meantime here, want to take your attention to the corner of Wall and Broad today, all the major averages, though, they tried still down for the week here. And the big concern is yet another inflation report that showed, at least on the wholesale inflation front -- that's the stage right before it gets to you and me -- was worrisome. It's not getting better.

So we have essentially quintupled interest rates right, and, so far, very little to show for it.

Meanwhile, speaking about very little a show, on the border, the administration now committing billions of dollars to deal with the surge, but could it be too little, too late?

After this.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAVUTO: Well, it goes on. And the surge goes on at the border. And, sometimes, they find the most creative ways to get through that border.

The administration's already promised \$3 billion in extra funding to support the efforts, but it might be too little too late, whether Title 42 stays or goes.

Bill Melugin in La Joya, Texas, with more.

Bill, what's happening now?

BILL MELUGIN, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Well, Neil, good afternoon to you.

We embedded with a new Texas DPS task force here in the La Joya area, and we witnessed with them back-to-back human smuggling busts, starting with this one. Take a look. This was right in front of somebody's house. A human smuggler bails out, illegal immigrants go running all over the place. Troopers tackle several of them, take them into custody.

They open up the back of the vehicle, they find more migrants being smuggled back there, some of them -- some of them wearing those cartel wristbands, indicating they have paid a cartel to be smuggled into the United States. You can see the smuggler in the yellow jacket was found and arrested by Texas DPS.

He was a Mexican citizen, said he was paid \$100 per person to smuggle them. You will see more illegal immigrants in the back of the vehicle who are being smuggled as well. Then take a look at the second piece of video. We were with DPS again, exact same area. They stopped this group of illegal immigrants they witnessed cross over from Mexico.

They went running into a neighborhood, got into a car. DPS arrests all of them. Well, one of those guys, one of those illegal immigrants had a bag with several boxes of ammunition in it, 45-caliber ammo.

Then we will take you up to the Laredo area. Take a look at this video, Texas DPS and Border Patrol stopping a big rig truck with a gravel trailer attached to it. Inside, they find 15 illegal immigrants being smuggled, as well as a young child who was inside of it. The driver was a U.S. citizen from the San Antonio area who was arrested and charged with human smuggling.

And then, lastly, this -- this photo, it's pretty sad to see this. This is up in Hebbronville, Texas, another human smuggling bus in a big rig. There was a man crammed inside a tiny little compartment of this big rig truck. There were several other illegal immigrants found in that truck as well.

But it just goes to show you how desperate some of these migrants are to get further into the United States and how much they're willing to risk their lives. That man had essentially no room to move as he was crammed in that truck. And we all remember what happened outside the San Antonio area back this summer in June, when 53 migrants died in a tractor trailer.

And back out here live, Texas DPS tells us the reason they put this task force together is because of the unprecedented number of got-aways slipping past Border Patrol these days. So they say they're going to keep this unit together, they're going to keep going out into the brush, going to -- keep going after these runners because, right now, Border Patrol is simply overwhelmed.

They don't have the manpower. And there's just not enough agents out here on the front lines these days, Neil.

We will we will send it back to you.

CAVUTO: Bill, if not for you, people wouldn't even know what the hell's going on there. So thank God for that. But it is amazing, to your point.

Bill Melugin in La Joya.

Thank you, Bill.

MELUGIN: Thanks.

CAVUTO: And, by the way, my next guest knows that quite well, Lieutenant Chris Olivarez, who has been telling us, look, it's bad here. Thank God for reporters like Bill kind of showing that, but the Texas Department of Public Safety high -- and a center player in all of this, always joins us to remind us about what others might be missing.

Always good to have you, Chris.

And I'd be curious now, with this \$3 billion commitment, we're told the administration is behind to deal with Title 42, should it disappear. I'm wondering whether that's going to make a dime's worth of difference. It's a lot of dimes, no doubt, but, man, there are a lot more migrants surging in.

LT. CHRIS OLIVAREZ, TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY: Right.

So, first of all, it's great to have you back. And also, as you mentioned, without the reporting from Bill Melugin, the American people would not know what's going on. Also, they would not see the work that's being done by our Texas Department of Public Safety personnel. So, just it really shows how important it is to highlight and showcase the work that's being done along the border.

But going back to your question, I think this is something that should have been done from the very beginning. Why are we waiting until we see record number up to record number every single month? And why are we doing it right now to where, a few weeks from now, Title 42 is going to be completely canceled?

You could throw -- you could throw billions of dollars to border security, but nothing's going to stop the flow of mass migration, nothing's going to stop the criminal activity unless you follow through with the policies that were working, that were effective.

They need to codify the policy for remain Mexico, restart the agreements, the discussions with other countries, so that those that are coming across our borders illegally do not have a justifiable or credible asylum claim that they will be deported back to their country. And then you can start reconstructing the border wall again, restart those -- the construction process.

And then you can add additional manpower, additional technology, and as well as infrastructure, but right now throwing money, billions of dollars at the situation right now, it's not going to stem the flow of mass migration. They got to get to the root causes, which is following the policies, federal law, and deporting some of these illegal immigrants back that do not meet the criteria for a justifiable or credible asylum claim.

CAVUTO: You know, earlier this week, Chris, we had Senator Joe Manchin try to provide some cover for Homeland Secretary Mayorkas, saying that he's trying to do a job, but it's really his boss, it's really the White House that is setting this policy and making him look bad.

I'm paraphrasing. I hope I got the gist of that right. What did you make of that, that this isn't on Mayorkas?

OLIVAREZ: Well, Neil, I think there's a lot of finger-pointing.

But the fact of the matter is that the federal government has a responsibility to secure the border. They need to protect Americans. That is their sole responsibility. And regardless of the political spectrum, if you look at what Governor Abbott has done from the very beginning with Operation Lone Star, and all the different executive orders that he signed, and all the different strategies and plans that he put in place, well, he did -- he did not just talk about.

He actually did it. There was actually a plan of action. And when we look at the what the federal government is doing, they talk about strategies, they talk about plans, they're pointing fingers, but yet nothing's being done. And it seems to get worse every single month, especially in the month of November, when you have an unprecedented level of God always, over 73,000 in a single month.

And that is why we put this task force together, which is in conjunction with Operation Lone Star, because we have that flexibility. We have the support from our leadership to have these operations, to go after the criminal element that's taking place along the border and also to seize the amount of drugs.

We talked about fentanyl, how serious fentanyl is, where it's killing tens of thousands of Americans every single -- every single year, but also methamphetamine. We have seized over 38,000 pounds of methamphetamine, 75 times of this dangerous drug, which is a major contributor to overdose deaths.

So, something needs to be done. They need to stop the finger-pointing and actually do something, meet with local officials, talk to border agents, law enforcement, and come together and have an effective plan in place and actually do something about it and put it in place.

CAVUTO: Well put, Chris. It's always good seeing you, I always regret under these circumstances, my friend, but you always give us a perspective that a lot of times we don't hear. And appreciate that. Have a good weekend.

OLIVAREZ: Likewise, Neil. Thank you.

CAVUTO: Meanwhile, every day, always a new surprise on Twitter, but let's go to Kelly O'Grady, because now there's even something called a blacklist.

Do I have that right?

KELLY O'GRADY, FOX BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT: You do, Neil.

Yes, drop two of the Twitter files came out yesterday. And we learned all about what the meaning of visibility filtering is, though some call it shadowbanning.

I will tell you more after this.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAVUTO: Well, they call it the happiest place on Earth, but, at Disney World, they just raised ticket prices again at least three theme parks, which has me wondering.

It's not the happiest place on Earth. Right now, they're saying it's the angriest place on Earth -- after this.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAVUTO: I always wonder when it comes to our Kelly O'Grady, great reporter.

We just said with this whole thing with Elon Musk and he was interested in taking and owning Twitter, you might want to follow this, Kelly. It's only going to be maybe a couple-a-day, couple-of-week story. We are now months into this thing and she is still following it.

Kelly, now it's getting crazy, though, isn't it?

O'GRADY: It really is.

I know, Neil. I'm on the billionaire beat, as I call it. But, listen, this latest drop in the Twitter files, drop two, brings to light this thing called visibility filtering. So, Twitter actually use the tool to actively limit what accounts got shown, but also what content, right? So people are calling this shadowbanning.

And that directly contradicts how previous management always maintained the no shadowbanning ever happened. I want to share a tweet from former head of legal, Vijaya Gadde. She said, back in 2018 -- so this was a while ago -- she says: "Twitter exists to serve the public conversation, enabling important discussions around the world to occur. Favoring one specific ideology or belief goes against everything we stand for."

What last night's drop reveals, though, is Twitter was deciding what important discussions were allowed wide reach. And these decisions were happening at the highest levels, the platform even having a secret counsel, including Gadde and Jack Dorsey, making those decisions.

One filter to count -- that came up yesterday was Liberals of TikTok. It was a suspended seven times in 2022 for violating the hateful conduct policy. But these internal documents reveal the committee later acknowledged it hadn't, in fact, violated that policy, but they still sought to justify its suspension.

Another blacklisted user, I want to point out, was Dr. Jay Bhattacharya. He's a Stanford health policy professor who argued that COVID lockdowns would harm children.

I spoke to him last night about how Twitter's actions could impact medicine.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DR. JAY BHATTACHARYA, STANFORD UNIVERSITY: Twitter suppressing that discussion, they're suppressing science.

And to pretend that they can don the mantle of science and referee scientific disputes in real time and say, OK, this side is right, this side is wrong -- this side is wrong, and it's so dangerously wrong, we're going to suppress it, that essentially -- it's like the age -- end of the Age of Enlightenment.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

O'GRADY: Oh, those are really powerful words,

Elon Musk is sharing that they are working on a fix to show you if your account was shadowbanned and how to apply to appeal that decision.

But, Neil, I'm wondering, this transparency, does it build trust with users or does it just destroy all hope of this town square? I guess we will have to see.

CAVUTO: Yes, you will have time to see it, because I feeling this story drags on a while.

Kelly, thank you very, very much for that.

John Yoo is with us, the former deputy assistant attorney general, U.C. Berkeley law professor, former Justice Thomas law clerk. I think it's safe to say John knows the law.

Always good to have you, John. Thank you for coming.

Where does this go? Because the big issue now seems to be what else are you hiding, Twitter, or what else have you done in the past, or who else have you alienated or blacklisted, literally and figuratively? It just seems to be endless.

JOHN YOO, FORMER DEPUTY ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL: Neil, it's great to be with you.

I hope I know a lot about law. Let's give it a test.

One is, these are private companies. They're allowed to do what they want, unless they have been coordinating with others. Suppose we want to find out whether Twitter, maybe other social media companies like Google, maybe Facebook had been coordinating their actions with the intelligence agencies.

That's what seems to be suggested in the first drop of Twitter documents. If you combine that with systematically trying to censor, suppress, blacklist only conservatives, then I think you have a lot more than just private corporate CEOs taking off people they like or don't like. You have them colluding with the government and the government trying to suppress criticism, trying to try to suppress discussion of public policy.

That's really concerning. I think then the next move is for this to move to the Hill, where Republicans in the House can start to conduct oversight hearings. Maybe you might have inspector general investigations in the intelligence agencies and the FBI. So this is going to go on, I think for many, many more months.

CAVUTO: You know, it's interesting, John.

I flip around and watch what the other networks do, how they cover it. And for the more liberal you're deemed to be, the less this is of an issue. Of course, if you're ticked off about this sort of a thing, it becomes a very, very big issue.

But it seems to be the prism of the beholder. If you're left-leaning, what's the big deal? If you're right-leaning, very big deal. So I wonder, in that environment, given the type of coverage it's likely to receive, where does this go?

YOO: Neil, I think that's an unfortunate -- unfortunate aspect of our politics these days.

But we should all care about it, whether Republican or Democrat. Take the case of Dr. Jay Bhattacharya, who I know is a professor of medicine over at Stanford Medical School and a Ph.D. in economics. Nobody should want his speech censored or blacklisted or what they call filtered because he's questioning whether COVID lockdown policies are a good idea or a bad idea.

No matter where you're conservative and liberal, you should want to hear his facts and hear that debate.

CAVUTO: Right.

YOO: It is worse for the country as a whole for any one side, Democrat or Republican, conservative, liberal, to be suppressed.

We have a marketplace of ideas.

CAVUTO: Totally agree.

YOO: Let those ideas compete. We don't need -- we don't need people telling us what we should be hearing or not.

CAVUTO: Yes, I want to hear it all, John. On this show, we hear from everybody, both sides, try to get a Republican for every Democrat, a Democrat for every Republican, because that's only the fair way to do it.

So, when it's blocked out, no matter your point of view, it should tick you off when you find out later one side has been consistently left out it. It is a weird thing.

John, stick with the law thing. You show great promise. But thank you again, my friend. Have a wonderful weekend.

YOO: Thanks, Neil. Thanks, Neil. You too.

CAVUTO: Had to get that little -- I got had to get that little zinger in there.

Thank you, John.

In the meantime, he has seen this face to face forever now, and now what's going on in Ukraine stands to be signs of a long cold and very, very tough winter.

Jeff Paul is there in Kyiv -- Jeff.

JEFF PAUL, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Yes, Neil, he's the world's most elusive artist, and he was just here in Ukraine.

How Banksy's paintings are having a big impact on war-torn Ukrainians, and how some are, unfortunately, trying to take advantage of them -- after the break.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAVUTO: All right, think we're graffiti, you think eyesores to a lot of people, but, in Ukraine, it can actually be a liberating and unifying force.

Jeff Paul here to explain. He's in Kyiv right now -- Jeff.

PAUL: Yes, Neil, in the backdrop of all these different towns and villages that were devastated at the beginning of the war, you now have these near priceless works of art done by the artist Banksy.

But, as we witnessed firsthand, it really goes beyond art and is giving so many Ukrainians a glimmer of hope as they're surrounded by loss and destruction.

(BEGIN VIDEOTAPE)

(SIREN BLARING)

PAUL (voice-over): It's a surreal experience. As sirens blare throughout key warning of a possible incoming aerial attack, at this moment, there's something more pressing on the minds of these Ukrainians.

MARIYA MYKHAYLYUK, UKRAINE RESIDENT (through translator): It's very important for our country that it talk not only about war as politics, but also about war as culture.

PAUL: Mariya Mykhaylyuk is one of the countless folks who just had to see it to believe it.

Posted on this side of an unassuming concrete barrier sits a discreet, yet cleverly placed painting by the world's most mysterious and elusive artist, Banksy.

MYKHAYLYUK (through translator): The war will end, and art and culture will remain in memory and will serve as a symbol for future generations and a memory of what happened.

PAUL: Beauty in the backdrop of war. A dancer tiptoes on top of a hole in the side of this blown-out apartment in Irpin. Another handstands on the ruins of Borodyanka. And just down the road, a child appears to throw Russian President Vladimir Putin to the ground.

TATIANA RIZNICHENKO, UKRAINE RESIDENT (through translator): Well, to be honest, we didn't expect that such a famous person could come to our town and paint a picture. This is a great honor for us.

PAUL: Tatiana Riznichenko watched as Banksy created this work in her war-torn neighborhood in Horenka.

Without power and heat most days, Tatiana says the painting has not only warmed their hearts, but has drawn attention to hopefully get the help they need.

RIZNICHENKO (through translator): We will try to preserve it. We really want -- maybe someone will help us rebuild everything and make a museum at this place.

PAUL (on camera): Well, that's a bit of a letdown. We were hoping to see the Banksy here in Hostomel, but it appears someone beat us to it.

(voice-over): What was creatively placed robed woman wearing a gas mask has vanished.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: The perpetrators cut out part of the wall from the destroyed building.

PAUL: Police arrested eight people who claimed they were just trying to preserve the painting.

But beyond the tens of thousands each of these works of art could fetch at auction, there's a value they hold that's bigger than money. Even if it's just for a moment as they go about their day, not knowing if the next will come, it reminds them of the beauty of life, even if this war cuts theirs short.

(END VIDEOTAPE)

PAUL: Now, what really is striking is that line in their, war as culture.

And you see it among the local artists here in Ukraine. It's in their paintings, it's in their writings, and, sadly, Neil, it has just become a part of everyday life -- Neil.

CAVUTO: You know, Jeff, your reporting from there has always been so compelling and fantastic.

And I say this in a good way. I think it's aged you through this process, because it's been so horrific. But, as you get prepared to leave, what do you think of what's next?

PAUL: Gosh, I really wish I knew what was next.

I mean, you hope for peace. And, every day, we hear about the possibility of one of these big missile strikes coming in. You truly just pray for no news. I mean, I come here each time hoping that I don't get on TV, that I hope that it's just boring. And I really hope, in the new year, that, really, this nation can find peace, because some of the most important things -- again, I have said this before -- is knowing that your family is safe and healthy, and just having a place to call home.

CAVUTO: You know, I wonder too, Jeff.

It's pretty clear, if you look at Vladimir Putin and his strategy, it continues to be to target civilians and to wear the Ukrainian people down, to the point that they just quit or say the hell with it. What do you think?

PAUL: I mean, I'm going to use same word you did since you did. There's not a chance in hell that that's going to happen.

And I say that because just think about before this war, Neil. I'd never heard the Ukrainian language. I didn't know about the art here. I didn't know about the history. And now the whole world knows about this.

So, he can try as much as he wants to erase this country off the map. But we will always know about Ukraine now.

CAVUTO: Absolutely, thanks to guys like you.

And I didn't mean that slap on age, but you gained a wisdom through all of this, Jeff. And I think we all appreciate it. And we have all learned from it.

Jeff, thank you very much.

PAUL: You got it.

CAVUTO: We will have more after this.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAVUTO: Well, he's gone from wunderkind to it's a wonder how he lost tens of billions of dollars, and maybe some criminality could be involved.

And now we're hearing that the FTX founder, Sam Bankman-Fried, he is going to testify before the House Financial Services Committee next week,

Charlie Gasparino with what we might get expected to hear -- Charlie.

CHARLIE GASPARINO, FOX NEWS SENIOR CORRESPONDENT: I think it's going to be a lot of the same, Neil.

I mean, listen, he's now completely lawyered up. He did his media tour. And if you paid attention to any of that media tour, it was -- a lot of it was like: I have no idea what went on. I don't have full information.

Granted, some of those media interviews were sort of softball-ish. They didn't press him. And I think on the -- especially on the Republican side of the House Financial Services Committee, I think you're going to -- like Patrick McHenry, the ranking Republican, who's going to be the chair of the committee when the 108th Congress takes over in January, I think they will be more -- they will be pressing him, because, as you know, there's a partisan issue here too.

Sam Bankman-Fried is a mega-donor to the Democratic Party. Yes, FTX, the firm that went under, the crypto exchange, gave to Republicans, but he -- he himself was a huge Democratic contributor, a big contributor to President Biden in 2020.

So expect the Republicans to really lay into him. We will see if he can dodge those questions. It's going to be a little different atmosphere than the other interviews, which reporters that were interviewed were just lucky -- they were happy that kind of that he picked up the phone.

A lot of people in the Republicans think this guy is an arch criminal. It'll be interesting to also see if he answers the request by the Senate Banking Committee for testimony on Wednesday. This is -- this is the first one. The House Financial Services Committee will be Tuesday. Then it's the Senate Banking Committee on Wednesday.

And whether they -- whether he agrees to them as well, maybe some of that has to do with how well he does Tuesday. But, again, we're going to hear some more words from Sam Bankman-Fried. I think we will hear the same sort of Sergeant Schultz defense: I have no idea how FTX imploded, how the customer funds, possibly billions -- we are -- this is not a small thing.

We are talking about maybe \$8 billion was taken from customer accounts and mis -- and allegedly and potentially misappropriated to a side hustle hedge fund that gambled it away in -- or allegedly gambled it away in crypto, so, a big, big problem for the financial system and the markets.

And it's the result. And multiple criminal and civil investigations are going on, including what Congress is doing. This is a big story, maybe one of the biggest scandals we have seen since Madoff in 2008.

So, we will get a little more answers, I think, this week. But, again, he's played Sergeant Schultz, done it effectively with journalists. Let's see if he does it with politicians -- Neil, back to you.

CAVUTO: Very few people got that analogy, but those of a certain age would say, you hit on the nail on the head.

Charlie, thank you very much.

GASPARINO: Yes, "Hogan's Heroes."

(CROSSTALK)

GASPARINO: I hear nothing.

CAVUTO: Yes, that's exactly. Nothing.

All right thank you very much, my friend.

We have got a fascinating story. Did you hear about this Olive Garden manager who was sick and tired of so many employees calling out sick? Nothing happened to the employees. Guess what happened to him? He's out of a job. Food for thought -- after this.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

CAVUTO: All right, do you remember when you were a kid in school and you took a day off, or you say that you were sick or that something happened, and the teacher would demand either a call from your parents or at least a letter the next day, or, if it really was bad, a note from a doctor?

Enter an Olive Garden manager who got so fed up with employees calling out sick or missing work that he would demand proof that they couldn't make it that day or that the dog might have died, as they argued in a couple of cases.

It turns out that dude is the one who's out of a job, and nothing happened to the workers.

Kacie McDonnell Hosmer joins us right now. FOX Nation host extraordinaire. Madison Alworth joins us as well, FOX Business correspondent, also extraordinaire.

Ladies, welcome to both of you.

Madison, end it with you, begin with you. All this Olive Guard manager wanted was proof that, all right, you're calling in sick, calling out again. Please provide the proof. And now he's out. What did you make of it?

MADISON ALWORTH, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Well, I do think that if you were asking your employees to bring in their dead dog as proof, that is problematic. I think it makes that pretty evident.

I also think, from the employee standpoint, you have to imagine some of these sick calls are probably not real. But if you are a pro, you want to do things that cannot be traced. Saying that your dog died, you might need to have evidence of having owned a dog. There's a lot of backup that you need. So I see both sides.

But I do also understand why they had to let this manager go.

CAVUTO: I don't know. I don't know about that. Maybe I'm showing my age here.

But, Kacie, the one thing I start wondering about is, we could see it all the time when we go to restaurants and stores. There's a shortage of hell. And, time and again, we hear from those who work there, we can't -- we can't get the help to come in or we can't find the help. So I can understand this manager's frustration. Your thoughts.

KACIE MCDONNELL HOSMER, FOX NATION HOST: That's the exact point, Neil. You have help wanted signs everywhere. It's the holidays. People are going out. Families are getting together. They're meeting up for drinks after work.

You need staff to run a business. And who is it coming back to? It's coming back on the manager. So they're probably picking up shifts, they're staying longer hours, doing things that maybe weren't his or her job. And, again, as Madison said, let's not put things in e-mail.

I think we -- I think we know what's going on with the e-mails now. Maybe have a one-on-one conversation. Listen, if there is not a memorialized TikTok or reel to this dog, the dog probably never existed.

My cat has been -- has puked, maybe, if I was a couple minutes late for work, but I would never kill off my cat. That's just bad karma.

CAVUTO: Yes, I mean, that went in a whole 'nother Twilight Zone direction, I agree.

(LAUGHTER)

CAVUTO: But, Madison, the gist of it was, prove that you're sick. Or if you can't be relied on to come in, you work here, you don't want to work here. You are -- so here we be. Nothing's changing.

We still have all these jobs that go begging in this country, and then, once people do take them up, they're not always there. I can't imagine it getting much better. What do you think?

ALWORTH: Yes, I mean, albeit of me, the employee, to say that maybe what this manager or the workplace should do is incentivize them to come in with kindness.

Rather than threaten them and say, bring in your dead dog, maybe hey, build some camaraderie. Make the person want to come in. Yes, we are struggling with workers. There is a huge...

CAVUTO: Well, free breadsticks. Free breadsticks might be a start, right?

ALWORTH: So there you go, right, not just for the customer, maybe on your break as well.

These are things that can get people in, because yes, it is horrible as a team, but for someone to care about the team, they need to be prioritized and taken care of. And based off of how this manager acted. I can't imagine that they were the most welcoming manager. I don't know if I'd want to work for them.

CAVUTO: I don't know. I don't believe you believe that, because you have never missed a day of work. You're always in under all sorts of trying circumstances.

So you might as well start throwing your colleagues under the bus. But that's a separate -- that's a separate issue for you.

But, Kacie, I want to follow another story that got my attention. Disney World for the umpteenth time has just raised prices at a number of its theme parks, within its parks, Disney World, for example. A single-day one-park ticket is up \$189 right now. It affects three of the more prominent parks, Magic Kingdom, EPCOT, Hollywood Studios.

It is really getting to be out of the realm of possibility for your typical family to afford going there. But Disney keeps doing it. What do you make of it?

MCDONNELL HOSMER: The most magical place on Earth is magically depleting your bank account is what it is.

And it's so much pressure on parents. Color me mad, call me Karen, change my name down there to Karen. I'm a new mom now.

(LAUGHTER)

MCDONNELL HOSMER: I'm also a Florida resident. So there are a lot of perks. There are a lot of perks for Florida residents if you're going to Disney.

That's not fair for everyone else. Everyone else doesn't live in Florida. So, one in five families that go to Disney has reported that they have gone into debt going to Disney. If you look at the other side of that, I did a little poll on my Instagram. Four out of five people said they're not going because of these price hikes.

Living in Florida, let's just look at that. I can take my children. I only have one right now. But we can be in the car and be there by lunchtime. Do I want that pressure to have to go all the time? This should be something that kids look forward to. And they're begging their parents. It puts them in a bad situation.

I talk to my cousin. She has a little boy not even a year-old. And she said: I'm taking him when he's 5. I'm saving up as much as I can to take him when he's 5.

CAVUTO: All right. Well, we will see what happens.

Kacie, final word on the subject.

Madison, you can always say, if you don't want to pay those ticket prices: I'm too sick to pay them, or I'm spending too much on my dog.

But here we be. And it goes worse and worse and worse.

We're going to be exploring this inflation problem and how bad it's getting, because it does seem to permeate everything. But that's for tomorrow at 10:00 a.m.

Right now, here's "The Five" at 5:00.

END

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SE News; Domestic

HD **WNBA Star Released In Swap For Russian Arms Dealer; Brother Of Detained American In Russia Speaks; John Kirby On Putin's Invasion Of Ukraine; Rep. Jim Jordan (R-OH), Is Being Interviewed About Former Federal Bureau Of Investigation And Twitter Attorney James Baker; Musk: Important Data Hidden, Possibly Deleted; GOP Leader McCarthy On His Bid For House Speaker; Chinese President Xi Meet With Saudi Crown Prince; Former FTX CEO Bankman-Fried May Face Subpoenas; New Video Shows Griner-Bout Prisoner Swap**

BY Martha MacCallum, Griff Jenkins, Chad Pergram, Kelly O'Grady, Jack Keane

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SC HUNDD

LA English

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LP

MARTHA MACCALLUM, FOX NEWS CHANNEL HOST (on camera): Good afternoon, everybody. I'm Martha MacCallum live today in our nation's capital, big show today in D.C. Leader Kevin McCarthy faces new hurdles on his way to getting the speaker's gavel. He will join us here shortly, as well Congressman Jim Jordan. And in moments I will speak with John Kirby at the White House where they are waiting for the arrival of WNBA star, Brittney Griner, now, shortly on American soil -- she was freed from a Russian prison in exchange for Russian arms dealer, Viktor Bout. But U.S. Veteran, Paul Whelan, was not freed in this exchange. We're going to speak with his brother about that. He has a message for the White House and here is President Biden earlier.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

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JOE BIDEN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: This was not a choice of which American to bring home. We brought on Trevor Reid when we had a chance earlier this year. Sadly, for totally illegitimate reasons, Russia is treating Paul's case differently than Brittney's. And while we have not yet succeeded in securing Paul's release, we are not giving up. We will never give up.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: John Kirby is standing by with more on that, but first to Paul Whelan's brother David. David, welcome, it's good to have you with us. I heard you earlier saying that, of course, you're happy for Brittney Griner and for the relief that her family must feel but that you want this White House to be more aggressive. How do you want them to go about that exactly, sir?

DAVID WHELAN, PAUL WHELAN'S BROTHER: Well, it's, it's really more assertive. I think that the U.S. government is a little bit behind the rogue nations who are taking Americans hostage. And the Biden administration has done a good job in the last two years of trying to get ahead of that curve. And so, we need them to take the next step, which is that when they have someone like Paul, who is a wrongful detainee in a country like Russia, that they have a plan for how they will get a concession or how they will be prepared in order to have those negotiations and bring the person home faster than they're currently doing with someone like Paul, who has been there for years.

MACCALLUM: So, you said that they should take more law-breaking Kremlin connected Russians into custody, can you tell us more about what you're requesting there?

WHELAN: Well, there are plenty of them about, and we have seen the DOJ engaged in extradition of Russians from other foreign countries for a while. That's how Mr. Bout was captured in Thailand and brought back to the U.S. to stand for justice. So, there are people out there, and I think the U.S. government can be more proactive at looking at who those people are, and bringing them into custody, bringing them to justice.

And of course, you know, stopping short of turning into our enemy. We don't want to do what these hostage taking nations are doing. But we do, I think, you do have a plan for how we are going to respond when an American is taken into, into the street as a hostage.

MACCALLUM: So, your brother, through a message to CNN said that he's greatly disappointed that the Biden administration hasn't done more to secure his release. Talk to me a little bit about that.

WHELAN: Well, I think you can understand his disappointment.

MACCALLUM: Of course.

WHELAN: I think we all had perhaps inflated hopes when Secretary Blinken said in August, that there was a substantial proposal that had been made. I think Paul had been thinking a little bit about what it might be like to be home, he had been thinking about where he would get a home. He has no home right now in the United States. And so, to have that dashed, and so suddenly, I think is, is hard. There had been people talking about being home by Christmas. And of course, that isn't going to happen. So, I'm sure he's extremely disappointed.

MACCALLUM: So, he had been moved and out of contact with the family and at a hospital facility. And then he came back, right.

WHELAN: Right. Yes, the Wagner Mercenary Company was recruiting in his prison, and had done so in September as well. And both times they had moved him to this hospital, mostly, I think so he couldn't witness what was going on. And unfortunately, this time, they didn't allow him to call us. And so, we, we let the U.S. government know and raised as much hue and cry as we could.

MACCALLUM: Yes, people are familiar with that organization from the atrocities that they have seen being carried out in Ukraine. And Paul is claiming that they were recruiting from the prison that he was in. And as you say, he was removed ostensibly to so that he couldn't witness what was going on. What do you think about, about Viktor Bout, the man who has committed atrocities all over the world being released in this exchange?

WHELAN: Well, I trust the president, I think that Mr. Bout is a person who spent a long time in U.S. custody, he's older, and that's really all I know about him. And, and so the experts at the U.S. government, if President Biden is willing to make that decision based on their recommendations, that's good enough for me.

MACCALLUM: All right. Sir, thank you for being with us I know your family is, as your brother has said, greatly disappointed and wants to see more action taken to get your brother home. And we'll all be thinking about you and him, he's a veteran served as a Marine. And a lot of people would like to see him back on U.S. soil, of course. Thank you very much. Thank you, Sir. Thanks.

So, with that we bring an NSC Coordinator for Strategic Communications, John Kirby. John, good to see you. Welcome back to the program today. When you hear Mr. Whelan say that he would like to see the White House be more aggressive, more assertive on his brother's behalf in arranging something to get him home and to have more of a plan, what do you say?

JOHN KIRBY, NSC COORDINATOR, STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS: Can I just say before I answer that question, Martha, the Whelan family particularly today, not just today, but, but certainly today is just the picture of grace, and dignity, poise, and courage. I mean, in the face of what they've been going through now for four years.

And it's just extraordinary to -- I was able to listen to that interview and just extraordinary to, to listen to the thoughtful, deliberate way in which Mr. Whelan is not only looking after his brother, but, but, but be concerned about this whole issue. And so, to that question, I can assure you that the Biden administration is being as assertive and aggressive as we can to try to bring back all wrongfully detained Americans.

Each case is individual, each case is different. And that's what happened here. The Russians just treat Mr. Whelan differently. They put them in a special category. And that makes negotiating over his release through a swap of some kind, much more difficult than it wasn't a case of Brittney Griner. But I certainly, we all sympathize with, with what Mr. Whelan told you that, you know, he wants to see more action. Believe me, we are going to continue to pursue this as the President said every day as energetically as we can.

MACCALLUM: So, this is from Douglas Faraz's biography of Viktor Bout provided tons of guns and ammunition to some of the most vicious warlords in the world, and empower them to carry out unspeakable atrocities. He's responsible for neighboring murderous groups to kidnap and train and Thomas traumatized thousands of child soldiers. It goes on and on. Systematic rape of the things that this this man was behind.

And this is from foreign policy, an op-ed piece out today, we cannot risk another bout with Viktor Bout. Moscow could just as easily put him back to work planning and executing clandestine supply missions in support of Russian proxies like the Wagner Group in Africa, Venezuela and other hotspots. Why is this not a concern in this exchange?

KIRBY: Nobody's saying that it's not a concern, Martha, these are tough decisions that as the President said, he doesn't take lightly. He's always got to balance our commitment to helping Americans overseas and particularly those wrongfully detained with our own national security. Look, nobody's doing backflips here, Martha, about the fact that Mr. Bout is a free man. And we're going to watch, and we're going to monitor, and we're going to be vigilant.

We were, yesterday, about our national security. And we're going to be today Now that Mr. Bout is a free man, we're going to do what we have to do to protect our national security interest, whether it's from a man like him, or anybody else, you know, that that Russia may put into the mix to try to threaten our national security interests.

MACCALLUM: But just in general, John, about this kind of policy of letting people go who are dangerous in order to get Americans back, does it not encourage more abductions more taking prisoners in order to use them to get these people back?

KIRBY: To some degree, Martha, that ship has sailed. I mean, this is not a new tactic for Mr. Putin. This idea of wrongfully detaining Americans in return for -- to try to get somebody else back or to get some other concessions. This is part of Mr. Putin's playbook. So, we made this calculation. It was a tough decision. But it was a better, it was a better decision than doing nothing, because it was either get Brittney out using Mr. Bout, or get nobody out. And I think we could all agree that it's better to have Brittney Griner soon on American soil rather than spending years and years in prison for a crime she didn't commit.

MACCALLUM: You know, I think back to Bowe Bergdahl and four of the Taliban that were freed in his exchange are now in positions of power in the Taliban. I mean, that, that doesn't feel like you know, I mean, of course, you want to get Americans back, but that doesn't feel like a great, a great deal for us.

KIRBY: Well, I don't know --

MACCALLUM: -- people of Afghanistan.

KIRBY: Look, I don't know whether it's worth today going back to the Bergdahl case. I was at the Pentagon when that went down, working for the Secretary of Defense. And he said very publicly, look, this was a this was a tough decision as well, but we don't leave soldiers behind on the battlefield and we knew that Mr. Bergdahl was being held in utterly deplorable conditions in a box with no light or air in many cases for hours at a time. It basically being tortured. And his health and well-being was very, very much at risk. I remember that.

And look, you know, it's like I said at the time, you know, in the United States Navy, if a sailor goes overboard, you don't ask at the moment, whether they were pushed, whether they jumped or whether they accidentally fell, you turn the ship around, and you go pick him up.

MACCALLUM: Well, of course. No, of course, John.

KIRBY: And that's what we were trying to do with Mr. Bergdahl.

MACCALLUM: But the question is doing these trades, you know, that's the question I'm asking. I do want to get your thoughts on, on Ukraine here for a moment because there's a piece in today's Wall Street Journal that says Ukraine says Western allies shouldn't fear Russia falling apart, and it's an interview with Foreign Minister Kuleba. And he's saying, we will not negotiate, Ukraine will not negotiate unless we get back all of Crimea, and Luhansk, and Donetsk. We want to go back to the original 2014 lines here. And Antony Blinken, the Secretary of State said, no, no, we're there to help to restore February 24th lines. So, how does this not pull us deeper and deeper in to help Ukraine win?

KIRBY: We have already been fairly deeply involved over the last nine months, in trying to help Ukraine's Armed Forces win on the battlefield, succeed on the battlefield. And we're going to keep doing that. You're going to see continued security assistance packages going forward. We've been up on the Hill this week, asking Congress for support for another supplemental request, which would be more than \$20 billion in security assistance alone. So, we're going to keep at this, we're not going to dictate the terms of negotiation with Mr. Zelinskyy. He's the president of his country. He gets to determine what the circumstances are.

MACCALLUM: But we are, the White House is -- the State Department is saying we are only supporting back to the lines of February 24th. And Ukraine is saying, no, that's not what we want. Also, John, I want to ask you there were two drone attacks that went from Ukraine territory, deep into Russian territory. I think

we have a map of this. And you know, the allies believe that these came from Ukraine into, deep into Russian territory. Can you confirm that those drone strikes came from Ukraine?

KIRBY: No, I cannot. I will let the Ukrainians speak to their military operations. What we're going to stay focused on is making sure that they can defend themselves in Ukraine, win back their territory, and their sovereignty, and succeed on the battlefield. That's what we're focused on.

MACCALLUM: OK. Out of time, but hope we can get, talk more about that in the future. John, thank you very much.

KIRBY: Anytime, anytime, you bet.

MACCALLUM: John Kirby, joining us from the White House today. More on this prisoner swap in a story exclusive with White House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, who calls this move a gift to Vladimir Putin at this really sensitive time with the war in Ukraine. And Congressman Jim Jordan, as the plot thickens for James Baker -- you're hearing this name again. Why was the former FBI lawyer who worked very closely with Jim Comey now at Twitter, reportedly vetting, or as Elon Musk says possibly deleting important data that was related to the Hunter Biden story? The very latest coming up next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: Stay tuned. That is what a Republican spokesperson from the House is telling Fox News Digital about possible legal action over the Hunter Biden Twitter files.

Elon Musk says he fired Twitter lawyer James Baker. You remember that name, if you've been following these stories, who used to be the FBI's top lawyer under James Comey, during the whole Russia collusion story.

And the reason that Musk fired him, let him go is because of his "possible role" in suppression of information.

The top Republican on the House Judiciary Committee, Ohio Congressman Jim Jordan is standing by. First, to national correspondent Griff Jenkins, who is right here with me in Washington, D.C.

Hi, Griff Jenkins.

GRIFF JENKINS, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Hey, Martha. Good afternoon.

MACCALLUM: Great --

JENKINS: It's great to have you here in Washington. And look, there's a lot more on this story to come out. And Twitter's former boss Jack Dorsey wants it out there, tweeting out at Musk, saying make it all public. Make everything public.

Well, Musk replied, saying this, "Most important data was hidden from you too," meaning, Dorsey "and some may have been deleted, but everything we find will be released."

Now, this comes Martha, after Musk fired Baker, the former FBI lawyer, turned Twitter counsel, who we now know was holding up the release of the next batch of files vetting internal communications before giving them to journalist Matt Taibbi and Bari Weiss.

The New York Post columnist Miranda Devine, who originally broke the Hunter Biden laptop story, says Baker played an integral role. Listen.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

MIRANDA DEVINE, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CONTRIBUTOR: And then, he pops up at Twitter five months before the election. It looks very much as if his role was to be the gatekeeper for any information that might be detrimental to Joe Biden.

JENKINS: Meanwhile, at the White House today, Karine Jean-Pierre, just a few hours ago, citing again, the Hatch Act refused to answer questions about this.

PETER DOOCY, FOX NEWS CHANNEL WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT (on camera): You've said a few times that you really can't talk about communications between the Biden campaign and Twitter. Who is telling you that that's off limits.

KARINE JEAN-PIERRE, WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY: I've already had that conversation with you -- with your colleague, I believe, yesterday.

I've already addressed this multiple times this week. So, I don't have anything more to add.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

JENKINS: This, as the incoming House Oversight Committee Chairman James Comer sent a letter to Jim Baker and two other Twitter employees, requesting they appear on the Hill early next month.

And Martha, the question now is when are we going to get the next batch of files?

We expect it to come from Bari Weiss, but we don't have a date or time, we just don't know. So, we're having to comb through our Twitter feed all day.

MACCALLUM: Yes.

JENKINS: Every day, until we get it.

MACCALLUM: Yes, very interesting. Very wise. Said, you reach out, and said, so, who's the attorney who's vetting all these files for us? And they said, Jim. Jim, who? Jim Baker, remember him?

JENKINS: There's a lot here to put this on your -- I think.

MACCALLUM: There is. There's lots to dig into here. Thank you very much, Griff. Great to see you.

So, here now, Ohio Congressman, Jim Jordan, ranking member on the Judiciary Committee, and member of the House Oversight Committee.

Great to see you today, Congressman.

Tell me a little bit about where you stand on this. You hear these discussions about data that might have been hidden.

REP. JIM JORDAN (R-OH): Yes, yes.

MACCALLUM: Or potentially deleted.

JORDAN: Well, just the -- just the whole fact pattern in and of itself is, I think, frightening. So, the guy vetting the release of this information is the same guy who was part of the Trump-Russia investigative team at the FBI, when he was chief counsel.

He is the guy who accepted the information from Michael Sussmann, Clinton's lawyer, about the Alpha Bank issue, which was all false.

Then, he goes to Twitter. He is the one who says all the Hunter Biden stories, a hack click operation, we need to suppress that. It's OK to do that. It's reasonable to do that. And now, we find out he is vetting it. So I want it all released.

And I tell you who I really want to talk to is this guy, Elvis Chan, FBI agent who was doing those weekly briefings we've now heard about in the run up to the 2020 presidential election.

I want to know, what was his connection with Jim Baker. Was Jim Baker, the guy he was briefing? Was Jim Baker getting a readout of the briefings that were taking place?

I want to know how cozy that was, because it sure looks like Jim Baker is on all sides of the equation here. So, I want to know was he still like working with Elvis Chan, the key guy at the FBI, who was doing these briefings that were why was all suppressed and kept from we, the people, just days before the most important election we had?

MACCALLUM: Yes, seems like a pretty cozy relationship that Baker goes from the FBI.

JORDAN: Very.

MACCALLUM: And then, he is the chief counsel at Twitter. And then, Elvis Chan, who works with the FBI comes over for weekly briefings to discuss what they might be concerned about, perhaps there might be some Hunter Biden state actor.

JORDAN: Yes.

MACCALLUM: You know, information coming through hacked information. And when you look at the e-mails that Baker was part of, Congressman, you know, he says, yes, it looks like, you know, it may be, you know, it might have been hacked information.

JORDAN: Right.

MACCALLUM: And I know we can't verify, because other people were expressing their concerns, like, this doesn't feel right, this doesn't smell right. This -- that we don't know that this was hacked material.

He's like -- he basically says, yes, but we can't take any chances.

JORDAN: Yes, but that e-mail, in conjunction with the letter signed by the 51 former Intel officials, that gives them all the cover they need. And that's why big tech, big media, all colluded here with big government to keep valuable and critical information that, I think, frankly changed the outcome of election.

Or you can make a credible argument that it changed the outcome of the election. And but for all that, we may not have this crazy 41-year high inflation rate, crime all over the place, a border that's no longer border.

So, that's the consequences of what they did. And that's why we fully need to expose everything. Every single fact, talk to everyone involved with this. And that's exactly what we plan to do.

MACCALLUM: Yes.

JORDAN: When, in fact, we're in the majority.

MACCALLUM: And Congressman, what do you say to those who watch this and they're frustrated. They say, you know, we've been down this road before, nothing ever happens.

JORDAN: Everybody gets away with it, you know, the Congress might subpoena. They might or may not show up. And we saw this Sussmann case, and you know, Sussmann was exonerated in a court of law.

JORDAN: I know. It's frustrating, and I hear that all the time. All I can do is what my constitutional duty requires, and that is to do the oversight, do the investigation, so, the country gets the truth.

I truly do believe that exposing the truth, getting the facts out there is the first step into stopping this from happening in the future.

So, we have to do that when we take the oath of office on January 3rd, that's part of our duty.

So, we're going to do it in a way that's consistent with the Constitution. We're going to do it aggressively. But we're going to get to the facts here.

I mean, I also wonder. I also wonder, by the way, if those 51 people, who signed Brennan and Clapper and all these folks, were they talking to Jim Baker when he was at Twitter? They probably had to talk to him while he was in the government, just a few months before.

So, I want to know if that conversation happened and what was in that conversation?

MACCALLUM: OK. I need a really quick answer. But is Kevin McCarthy going to be the next Speaker of the House of Representatives?

JORDAN: I think so. Yes, I think so. I think he will working hard to bring our team together, and get wins like we got today on this vaccine mandate.

MACCALLUM: OK. Jim Jordan. Congressman, thank you very much. God to see you today.

JORDAN: You bet. Thank you.

MACCALLUM: So, there are five House Republicans who are threatening to torpedo Kevin McCarthy's bid to become House Speaker, including Arizona Congressman Andy Biggs.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. ANDY BIGGS (R-AZ): Here is the deal. We need to make a change in trajectory and change our path, change in process, change in procedure, change in policy.

All those are not going to happen with the current leadership -- leader at the top.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: So, House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy joins me here live, next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JOHN ROBERTS, FOX NEWS CHANNEL ANCHOR: Is there anything that Leader McCarthy could do to earn your support?

BIGGS: Not at this point. Here is -- here is the reason why. You have to have somebody that you believe in and trust.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

MACCALLUM: So, that was from Arizona Republican Congressman Andy Biggs, who has launched a challenge to the party's leader Kevin McCarthy, to be Speaker of the House when the GOP takes control come January.

Leader McCarthy is with me here in Washington to talk about that and some other big stories in the news today.

But first, to senior correspondent Chad Pergram, live on Capitol Hill. Hi, Chad.

CHAD PERGRAM, FOX NEWS CHANNEL CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENT (on camera): Martha, here is the key. The winning candidate must secure an outright majority of all members voting for someone by name.

McCarthy opponents contend 20 members oppose his bid for Speaker.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

REP. BOB GOOD (R-VA): It's clear Kevin McCarthy doesn't have 218. He is not going to have 218. The sooner that we get past the denial and the anger stage and move right on through depression and into acceptance that it's not going to be Kevin McCarthy, and we consider openly other candidates who can build that coalition 218, the better off we'll be.

PERGRAM: Let's run the math in a hypothetical scenario. The House starts with one vacancy. The GOP will have 222 members next year. If all 20, McCarthy opponents vote present, that means, McCarthy only gets 202 votes. If all 212 Democrats vote for Hakeem Jeffries, he becomes Speaker.

Jeffries secured an outright majority of all members who voted for someone by name. Now, it's unlikely that will happen. They call the roll alphabetically. Sometimes, people who say they will oppose a candidate for Speaker get cold feet.

LYNN WESTMORELAND, FORMER REPRESENTATIVE OF GEORGIA: If your last name begins in a W, that's different than your last name begins with an A. Because those guys that are in the front of the alphabet, they're walking the plank. And they don't know if W is going to stick with him or not. And so that's the problem that some of these guys have.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

PERGRAM: We often say it's about the math, but this is about parliamentary algebra. You don't know the number needed until the vote is complete. It's not necessarily 218. Martha?

MARTHA MACCALLUM, FOX NEWS ANCHOR: Thanks for clearing that up, Chad. Thank you very much.

Joining me now, House Republican Leader Kevin McCarthy is here. So, when Chad does that report and he runs that math, and he talks about Hakeem Jeffries becoming the Speaker of the House, what's going on? Are you getting butterflies over there?

REP. KEVIN MCCARTHY (R-CA), HOUSE MINORITY LEADER: No, no. We will get there. Look, we had our primary where Andy Biggs ran against me just couple weeks ago, and we went 85% of the vote. I think what's happening right now is negotiations. People want to see certain changes. And we're working through that, and we'll get there.

I mean, think for one moment, especially from a Republican Party. In the last two cycles, the Senate has lost seats, the governors have lost seats, the president lost seats, the only entity to win has been the House. Our goal was to stop Biden's agenda, win the majority and fire Nancy Pelosi. We did all three of those. We have to come together as one because it's a small majority. It's the same size majority of the Democrats have.

But if we can't come together on that opening day, no investigations, no subpoenas, no repealing 87,000 IRS agents, no becoming energy independent, no securing the border. I think that's more important than

sitting and squabbling with one another. We need to find a way to govern together, otherwise the American people will not give us the majority.

MACCALLUM: So, you heard Chad talking about 20 people potentially, and there's five names that are out there already who say that they won't vote for you. And then they say that there's an extended list that is bigger than that who also won't do that. You could get 20 people who vote present, and that knocks the number lower, that creates a majority. Ro Khanna came out and said he's willing to vote for a Republican, he's looking for a unity candidate.

MCCARTHY: The question would be there, what concessions would that Republican make with the Democrats to get their votes? No -- subpoenas are signed off on by the speaker. So think about would there be any investigations? Well, that answer would probably be no.

So I think it's important that Republicans find a way to come together. How are we going to be able to govern together and move forward? I know this is a lot of intrigue and I know this is the same thing that happened last time we picked the Speaker, when the Democrats picked the speaker. We're just going through it. But I think at the end of the day, we'll find a way all to come together.

MACCALLUM: You know, you talk about the things that could be promised. Maybe they say, you know, we're not going to impeach Mayorkas, maybe they say we're not going to do Biden investigation. There's even some people throwing out names like Liz Cheney, and Fred Upton as potential speaker of the houses as unity candidates. And I would remind everybody at home, you don't have to be a member, a sitting member of the House of Representatives to be the speaker.

MCCARTHY: Well, the interesting part in any state legislator, this has happened before. When there's been tight majorities and when the majority party doesn't come together as one, there's no telling what can happen. And in those situations, you're not able to govern very well, because you're making concessions to the Democrats. And in the essence, the Democrats would win on that. We don't want that to happen.

The American people have just spoken. They want to have a border that secure, they want to have an economy that's strong, they want to lower their gas prices become energy independent. They want to make sure parents have a parent's Bill of Rights, but they also want to hold their government accountable. None of that is capable.

And if we can't find a way to find speaker, nothing else happens. Members aren't sworn in. Government is not moving. I would think that with the responsibility that the American public has just entrusted to us that we would find a way to get there long before January 3rd happens.

MACCALLUM: So, you know, you're having discussions with these five members recently?

MCCARTHY: I have discussions with a lot of members. You have members --

MACCALLUM: With these five people? Are they open to coming over to your side?

MCCARTHY: I think a number of them are requesting certain things, and we're discussing. But the one thing most people have to understand, if one person wants something, you have to have 218 within a conference come together. So everybody has to find a way to work together to actually move this agenda to make America stronger. And that's what we're going to do.

MACCALLUM: All right. I mean, everybody's going to be watching very closely as well to inside baseball. And as you say, this does always happen or it often happens, but it's tricky because of the small margin. You were hoping for a big fat margin, so you wouldn't have to worry about some of this, right?

MCCARTHY: Right. But remember this, this is the same margin the Democrats had. And what's interesting is right behind us, they don't hand gavels out in small, medium and large. You just get the exact same gavel with the same power. But if you give that power up, the power of subpoena, the power of accountability, that's not what the American people want. They wanted to help be able to have a check and balance.

And that's why if the Republicans won the majority, the Republicans should select who that nominee is. We had that debate. We had a primary. I won 85% of the conference. I think people need to come together, find a way to govern together, that's what the American public wants.

MACCALLUM: All right. I want to get your thoughts on a couple of big stories today. Brittney Griner coming home, Viktor Bout is also going home to Russia.

MCCARTHY: Viktor Bout also known as the merchant of death.

MACCALLUM: Yes.

MCCARTHY: This is a big win for Putin, by far. The merchant of death, when he was able to be caught, this is a man that went around trying to kill American soldiers. This is a man who sells weapons. We're now having a war in Ukraine that Biden is concerned about, even his own DOD is concerned this man will be back on the field, back selling those weapons, back engaging in what he was doing around the world.

Think about the exchange here, the merchant of death for a WNBA star who was picked up for marijuana, what a victory for Putin. But what else it does, it makes every American who is overseas vulnerable, why? Because they can pick you up on a trumped up charge to get somebody they want out.

This is what's wrong. This is a sign of weakness. It goes back to what Secretary of Defense Gates said that every decision that President Biden has made in his 40 years when it comes to foreign policy has been wrong. And this is wrong. He left a marine behind. Think about it? Isn't that an equal exchange?

I'm glad an Americans coming home. She was arrested for a trumped up charge. But to exchange the merchant of death for this, it's made us weaker, it's made Putin stronger, and it's made Americans more vulnerable.

MACCALLUM: You know, speaking of weakness and foreign policy, President Xi of China is meeting with the leader of Saudi Arabia or the person who is mostly in charge of everything NBS there. And there's a lot of discussion about arms deals between the two, 5G and 6G deals between the two countries. It certainly appears that Saudi Arabia is turning their focus to China and away from the United States right now.

MCCARTHY: Well, you know who else helped this deal, Saudi Arabia. And President Biden had to change his public opinion with Saudi Arabia to get this deal done. So, how much did he really give up? And was this part of the deal to try to make Saudi Arabia keep production up until the election was over?

This is a real sign of weakness around the world. Here's China, President Xi, going to Saudi Arabia where America defends, even America defends their thoroughfare -- the purchasing of their oil to make sure it's delivered. President Xi is now developing an axis of power with who, Putin, North Korea and Iran? All individuals that want to expand their sphere of influence but hate America.

We need a strength here, and this is where the President has failed time. And again, he's showing weakness in every level. The number one thing you should do, make America energy independent, why aren't we selling American natural gas to not only our allies to our adversaries? Why don't we make China dependent upon us on our natural gas? It would make America economically stronger, more jobs here, and it would make our enemies dependent upon us. But instead he makes us weaker and Saudi Arabia stronger.

MACCALLUM: Well, they seem to have a pretty growing relationship, China and Saudi Arabia. Thank you very much, Minority Leader.

MCCARTHY: Thank you.

MACCALLUM: Good to see you today. Thank you.

So coming up, Congresswoman Maxine Waters says that she won't subpoena Sam Bankman-Fried about the billions his crypto investors lost quite yet. Anyway, she says SBF gave millions to mostly Democrat candidates, so are they going easy on him? We'll talk about that next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: Subpoenas could soon be on the way to former FTX CEO Sam Bankman-Fried at his luxury penthouse in the Bahamas. Both the House and Senate demanding answers about the crypto collapse that apparently wiped out billions in investor money. Fox Business correspondent Kelly O'Grady following the very latest development on this one today. The plot keeps thickening here, Kelly, from Los Angeles. Hi.

KELLY O'GRADY, FOX BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT. Hi, Martha. Yes, it does. I love this story. But, you know, Sam Bankman-Fried has publicly stated he will not testify until he feels comfortable he understands what happened. And given his entire defense thus far has hinged on him claiming ignorance. That could take a while. But Maxine, Representative Maxine Waters, is facing a lot of criticism for not being hard enough on the disgraced founder. She did tweet this regarding next week's hearing.

She said quote, "Lies are circulating that I'm not willing to subpoena SBF. He's been requested to testify at the December 13th hearing. A subpoena is definitely on the table. Stay tuned."

My colleague Hillary Vaughn asked Waters this morning about where the committee stands on that subpoena.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

HILLARY VAUGHN, FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT: Do you think there will come a time where you need to subpoena him?

REP. MAXINE WATERS (D-CA): Oh, absolutely. I think it is credible to tell him he needs to be at the December 13th meeting. If he's not, then let's see what's happening because I think that subpoena is on the table.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

O'GRADY: And next week Senate hearing invite had a bit more teeth though, senators on both sides sending this letter to SBF saying, "You must answer for the failure of both entities that was caused at least in part by the clear misuse of client funds. If you chose not to appear I am prepared to issue a subpoena to compel your testimony." Note, a subpoena is difficult to enforce when the individual is abroad like he is, but certainly SBF could join via Zoom.

Meanwhile, more info coming out about looming charges. Federal prosecutors are now reportedly investigating whether Bankman-Fried manipulated the market causing the crash of two cryptocurrencies earlier this year. So, Martha, a lot for Washington to question him on.

I do want to note the deadline to respond to that Senate hearing invite is 5:00 PM today, so the clock is ticking on whether he speaks out.

MACCALLUM: Yes. Well, they need actual charges to get an extradition process moving between the two countries and those haven't surfaced yet, so we'll see. Kelly, thank you very much, Kelly O'Grady in Los Angeles.

So, new reaction from the White House to the release of American Brittney Griner in exchange for a convicted Russian arms dealer who is known as the merchant of death. General Jack Keane weighs in coming up next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: So brand new video that has just been released shows Brittney Griner boarding a plane, obviously a very happy moment for her getting into that transport vehicle flying to the UAE to complete the prisoner swap with Russian arms dealer Viktor Bout.

This is pretty incredible, this story, when you really think about it, right? We're going to watch this in full in just a moment as we bring in retired four star general Jack Keane, former Army Vice Chief of Staff, Chairman of the Institute for the Study of War and a Fox News Senior Strategic Analyst. General, great to have you with us.

I mean, obviously, it's good to see this American who is coming home. But what is your take on the big picture and what pieces this moves between Russia and the United States in that?

JACK KEANE, FOX NEWS SENIOR STRATEGIC ANALYST: Yes. Well, first of all, I mean, it is absolutely gratifying to see these pictures and see and see her literally coming home. Obviously, we would like Paul Whelan to be coming home as well. I mean, these are very tough negotiations that go on. And for people who are looking for some kind of fairness or equality here, you're not going to find it.

I mean, our people are usually by and large, on some phony fake charge, or an exaggerated charge that an authoritarian state is holding over their head. And what they want in exchange, it just about every case is categories of a convicted criminal, a thug, a killer, and sometimes terrorists.

So the swap is always going to be lopsided, and to look for some equality, a fan, it's not going to happen, or you don't do the deal. And I think what has happened is American Republican and Democratic presidents have pretty much come to the same conclusion. They don't want to give up victim vote. They don't want to give up a terrorist, but they're going to give them up to get an American citizen home.

That is the conclusion that multiple presidents have come to, regardless of the lopsidedness of the swap itself. And I think we just see it for what the reality is, and the administration is in contact with the family on a regular basis. And obviously, that's pressure. But compassion is at play here, for sure. And everybody feels wonderful about seeing Brittney there get back in the United States, if that's where she is right now. That's wonderful.

MACCALLUM: Yes. Well, she's on her way. Guys, can you confirm from the control room? And are we looking at Viktor Bout here in this video? OK. So that's who you're looking at. He's smiling. He's really happy. He's talking on the phone. He's on his way back to Russia. And it just reminds me, and I brought this up with John Kirby, general, about the Bowe Bergdahl exchange, and the five members of the Taliban

who were released as part of that exchange, four of whom, according to some reporting, are in leadership positions in the Taliban now, where they have just recently executed people in Taliban -- as Taliban leaders in Afghanistan.

So I mean, you know, obviously, this is such a -- is this the right way to do this is my question. I mean, you're saying, you know, this is what happens, these are the concessions that are made. And, you know, is this the right way to do this?

KEANE: Well, Afghanistan, that's completely different in my book. I mean, this is an organization we were at war with. And the fact that we're going to exchange five members, it was five of them, four of them as you say back in positions of leadership, in exchange to Sgt. Bergdahl, I thought that was a horrible swap. And we're at war and I thought it was absolutely mistaken judgment to make that swap. I think this is a different category we're dealing with here entirely.

And also, you know, when it comes to Paul Whelan, I really -- I'm listening closely to what the administration is saying. And I think what the Russians have said to United States, one, we're not giving up two to get one back. That's number one. And, two, I think they're putting Paul Whelan in the category of being an American spy, he's being charged with espionage. We have no idea whether that's factual and family says it's not, I'll take the family at face value.

But the fact is that they're putting them in that category. And as such, they're probably being hard nosed about who they want for that. We've got a guy by the name of Roman Seleznev, who's in jail here in the United States for 27 years for being a Russian hacker. That's sort of the spy. There's also a FSB colonel who is a bonafide spy, he's being held in Germany, conviction of murder. Now, that would be much tougher to negotiate with, obviously, because Germans got to agree.

But I think that's what's going on with Paul Whelan. They've got them in a category, which is probably the toughest category for detention. In other words, someone who's committing espionage against the state, the nation state, that's very different than someone who's bringing in a small amount of marijuana or cannabis. So yes, I think we got tougher negotiations to deal with Whelan, but I'm optimistic we'll eventually get them out of there.

MACCALLUM: Yes. Well, Whelan and his family, as you say, claim that they planted evidence on him in order to take him into custody. We'll see where this goes but it's a tough trade and, as you say, everybody's glad to have Brittney Griner back but Paul Whelan needs to get back here as well. General, thank you very much. Good to see you sir.

KEANE: Yes. Great talking to you. So what investigators are now looking for in Idaho that could provide a breakthrough lead in the search for the killer of four college friends in their off campus house next.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

JAMES FRY, POLICE CHIEF, MOSCOW, IDAHO: We're going to do our job, we're going to do it to the best of our ability. And we owe this to the family, we owe this to the victims, we owe this to our community.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

MACCALLUM: So today, there's a possible new clue in the killing of four University of Idaho students. Police are looking for a car that may have been near the victim's home around the time of the murders. They're asking anybody who can see who knows this car, this is a similar car, an Elantra 2011-2012 to let them know. More story tomorrow.

END

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